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VOLUME LXVI, NUMBER 19933

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 1998 • (YAR 24, 5758 • 24 MOHARRAM 1419

NIS 4.50 (EILAT NIS 3.85)



6 International

Lebed looks to the future



12 Gardener's Corner

Clivia: Elegant, and an investment



20 Vision

Haka at the Western Wall

INDEX

Arts & Entertainment9
Business13
Family Matters11
Movies, TV, Crossword19
Opinion10
Sports20

Peres, Arafat, launch 'Peace Fund'

By NINA GILBERT

In a fanfare reminiscent of the heyday of the peace process, former prime minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday inaugurated the Peace Technology Fund, a venture capital fund that is to invest in projects in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The fund has raised \$50 million, 40 percent each from Israeli and Palestinian investors and 20 percent from the World Bank, and intends to boost the sum to \$100 million. The fund is to invest in Palestinian industrial ventures and joint business ventures between Palestinians and Israelis or international investors. At a ceremony in Bethlehem marking the opening of the fund for business, Peres, Arafat, and World Bank President James Wolfensohn signed the "Bethlehem Declaration," affirming their support for the effort "to promote the peace process, providing for the economic development of the West Bank and Gaza and fostering Palestinian-Israeli international business cooperation."

Peres called the launching of the fund a "beginning," saying



Celebrating yesterday's inauguration of the Peace Technology Fund are (from left) World Bank President James Wolfensohn, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, and former prime minister Shimon Peres.

the businessmen who gave checks for the venture are not just making an investment in business, but "also an investment in the future of the Palestinian people and in the peace in the Middle East."

In 20 years, Peres said, "we'll have west of the Jordan River 20 million people; more than half will be Palestinians. It is for us to decide how our children are to live. In order for Israel to remain

a Jewish state, Israel needs a Palestinian state and we have to do it right away."

Furthermore, he said, "I would not want to see the Palestinian state live in poverty or in want. It will be a terrible mistake if our children will be rich and the children of our neighbors poor."

"We have to have both a political peace and an economic peace," Peres added.

Arafat, who referred to his host

as "prime minister Shimon Peres," said the fund would make an "investment in the Palestinians and in Palestinian-Israeli economic relations."

"Our presence here today together, in spite of all of the difficulties, shows that it is the wish of the majority of the Palestinians and the majority of the Israelis to hold onto peace and justice for all of us," he said.

Wolfensohn said the World Bank believes that the fund is a coming together of people united not by politics but by humanity. "As we look to the next millennium, technology is going to be a key to the future of all of us," said Wolfensohn, who also announced that Daimler-Benz would become a partner in the venture.

See FUND, Page 5

PM blasts EU boycott

Says territory sanctions will hurt Palestinian jobs

By DAVID HARRIS and NINA GILBERT

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday attacked the European Union for what he described as its decision to boycott goods produced by Israelis in the territories, Golan Heights, and east Jerusalem. He said Israel might, as a result, have to employ fewer Palestinian workers. He added this latest incident could well put paid to the EU's desire to be a major player in the peace process.

Netanyahu was responding to an internal European paper, which last week condemned Israel's practice of exporting goods from the territories with a "made in Israel" label, entitling them to enter Europe duty-free.

An EU official dismissed Netanyahu's criticism as unfounded, saying there is no proposal to boycott Israeli goods and the issue will be discussed at a meeting of the European Council of Ministers next Monday. "You've read the communication and you can see it doesn't say anything about a boycott," he said.

A statement from the EU's Tel Aviv office said: "The question is one of correcting an alleged case of massive fraud of the regulations on rules of origin ruling free trade between the EU and Israel."

Any politically motivated reading on the part of the Israeli authorities is their own responsibility."

Asked why it has taken the EU so many years to object to the practice, the official said, "The commission has been turning a blind eye to this."

Speaking to some 100 foreign analysts at a EuroMoney conference in Tel Aviv, Netanyahu said the decision to boycott such products would lead to additional unemployment in Israel and, as a result, mean fewer Palestinians would be able to find work with Israeli companies.

"The EU's decision is likely to put on hold Israel's policy of employing Palestinian workers anew. The union's policy is unwise," he said. "Be careful with the use of ultimatums and dictates of any kind. That is one thing that doesn't go well in Israel and with me."

On Monday Ambassador-designate to the US Zalmay Chalkley equated the EU's actions with those of the Nazis.

"We saw a similar boycott of Jewish goods 50 years ago," he said.

This afternoon, Finance Minister Yashov Neeman is to raise the issue at a meeting this afternoon with ambassadors from the EU and its 15-member states.

See BOYCOTT, Page 5

Suharto says he'll step down, but not yet

JAKARTA (AP) - Under pressure from riots and protests, Indonesia's President Suharto said yesterday he will step down - but not just yet.

While promising a cabinet shuffle, government reform, and new elections first, he offered no departure date, angering protesters anew.

"This decision comes from my feeling of responsibility in an effort to save the country from

destruction," Suharto said in a sometimes somber, 15-minute speech televised nationally.

He said his insistence on making long-refused reforms before ending his 32-year reign should not be interpreted as "resistance on my part to step down."

But Indonesia's increasingly aggressive opposition took it as just that.

See SUHARTO, Page 5

Paul's Caesarea prison cell identified

By HANI SHAPIRO

Archeologists at Caesarea have identified the prison room in which Paul of Tarsus, one of the most important figures of early Christianity, was held.

This was revealed yesterday by Amir Drori, director of the Antiquities Authority, who was speaking to reporters at the dedication of the Kohanim Path and Observation Post on the Mt. of Olives in Jerusalem. Drori said that archeologists in Israel have uncovered many sites which are of importance to Christians which have not been restored for visitors because of lack of funds.

Paul, known as the Apostle to Christians, was born a Jew named Saul. According to the New Testament, he was educated by Rabbi Gamliel. He had engaged in suppressing Christianity, until he was converted on the road to Damascus, whereupon he embarked on a series of missionary journeys. Paul was imprisoned in Caesarea, but he demanded it was his right as a Roman citizen to be

heard by Caesar. He was sent to Rome, where he eventually was beheaded.

Drori said that the room has been identified on the basis of historic accounts and of inscriptions at the site by the Praetorian Guard, which was stationed there.

The Kohanim Path and Observation Post received its name from the fact that it skirts the cemetery on the Mt. of Olives and is thus accessible to kohanim, members of the priestly caste, who are prohibited according to Halacha from coming in contact with the dead or entering a cemetery. The site is part of a much larger project encompassing both sides of the Kidron Valley. It was developed with the cooperation of the Antiquities Authority, Religious Affairs Ministry, Tourism Ministry, Jerusalem Municipality, and the East Jerusalem Development Company.

The site was named in honor of the donors, David and Sylvia Salzberg of Manhasset, New York, and Delray Beach, Florida. Salzberg said that he first saw the site after having dedicated a floor at Hadassah Hospital. He asked to be taken to an archeological site and was taken there.

"My eyes opened up. I was just astounded. I asked my wife if there was anything in the world that she wanted more than this and she said no. I have never felt closer to heaven in my life," Salzberg recounted.

'New Yorker' lifts quotes from 'Post'

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Whether or not David Bar-Ilan actually made the remarks attributed to him in David Remnick's controversial article in the current issue of *The New Yorker* will always be open to debate for some people. What is certain, however, is that not all of the 13-page article is Remnick's own work.

A passage about the Channel 1 documentary series, *Tkuma*, which quotes director Ronit Weiss-Berkowitz, was lifted, word for word, from two stories that appeared in *The Jerusalem Post* on April 1 and April 3.

The article, which appears in the issue of *The New Yorker* dated May 25, paints a picture of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as an eternal outsider who has little trust or respect for establishment institutions. Among the institutions he is said to "despise" is the Israel Broadcasting Authority. In the article, Remnick described the controversy surrounding *Tkuma*, and focused on the segment that generated the most passion, "Path of Terror - Biladi, Biladi."

Remnick quoted Weiss-Berkowitz talking about the threatening calls she had received prior to the segment's airing: "They call my home," she said, "and say, 'We will burn you.' 'You f--- Arabs.' 'You stinking leftist, we know where you live.'"

That same passage - and the rest of the 100-word paragraph - appeared verbatim in two articles by Larry Dierfer in the *Post*.

Contacted by the *Post* yesterday, Weiss-Berkowitz said she had never been contacted by Remnick or anyone else who said they represented *The New Yorker*.

In a statement released last night, *The New Yorker* said: "The phrase 'has said,' indicating a quote that has appeared elsewhere, should have preceded remarks by the filmmaker, Ronit Weiss-Berkowitz. The phrase was inadvertently dropped, without the knowledge of the writer, David Remnick, as the article was prepared for press. Remnick believed at the time of publication that the quote was properly attributed; his manuscript made it clear that he had not spoken to Weiss-Berkowitz."

War of words rages over Bar-Ilan's alleged slurs

By JAY BUSHINSKY and MICHAEL YUDELMAN

The statements allegedly made by David Bar-Ilan, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's communications adviser, about Netanyahu and his wife Sara in *The New Yorker*'s May 25 edition, raised a storm and embarrassed the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

Netanyahu and his senior aides yesterday supported Bar-Ilan's denial. Speaking on Channel 2's *Dan Shilon Live*, the prime minister said Bar-Ilan is "furious" about the publication of the article, which quotes statements he said he did not make.

Civil Service Commissioner Shmuel Hollander said the Civil Service official in charge of discipline is examining Bar-Ilan's alleged statements, which included comments about Sara Netanyahu's

mental state, Netanyahu's infidelities, and Moshe Dayan's sexual behavior.

Bar-Ilan denies having said to the article's writer, David Remnick, that Sara Netanyahu is unstable. He also is quoted as saying the late Dayan "screwed half the women in the army."

But MK Yael Dayan (Labor) rejected his denial. She demanded Bar-Ilan be fired for his comments about her father, which she said went beyond the personal insult to the Dayan family to slurring every woman in the army, their commanders, her father, and the chief of staff post he filled. She urged Bar-Ilan be disciplined and demanded a personal apology.

Bar-Ilan has a "loose mouth, whose results are destructive. This must be stopped," she said.

"The article is written by a serious journalist in a serious publica-

tion, it's not some utterance made at a cocktail party. As No. 1 media adviser in the country, Bar-Ilan cannot maintain he didn't know he would be quoted. He should know every peep coming from his mouth will make headlines. This is what he gets paid for, and this is what he should be fired for," Dayan said.

Netanyahu's spokesman, Shai Bazak, said he believes Bar-Ilan "more than some reporter who is out to slander the prime minister." Bazak said it is ridiculous to think Bar-Ilan had said those things and the very thought he had said them in an interview is irrational.

"I know Bar-Ilan's opinion of Netanyahu and his wife. All of us in the Prime Minister's Office have a high opinion of Mrs. Netanyahu and admire her greatly for her hard work in helping her husband in his job and assisting



David Bar-Ilan (Ariel Jerolimski)

needy citizens," Bazak said. He said he was "filled with admiration for the cool way Mrs. Netanyahu was taking all these [slandering comments]. She knows who she is and what she's

worth."

Bazak said he had heard Bar-Ilan's explanations about his statements regarding Moshe Dayan, "whose memory we all respect and admire, and it sounded completely different."

Remnick said on *Erev Hadash* yesterday he had interviewed Netanyahu two weeks before Pessah and after that arranged to see Bar-Ilan in his office.

"It had nothing to do with being in the hallway or anything like that. We sat down in his office. I had my notebook out and was taking notes. We spoke for about half an hour, maybe 40 minutes, and that's the story. There was never any mention of 'off the record,' or 'on background' or any of the various ways one can avoid having one's name used," he said.

See BAR-ILAN, Page 2

NEWS

in brief

Two killed in explosions in south Lebanon

A South Lebanese Army soldier and a civilian were killed in separate incidents yesterday as fighting in the region continued unabated.

Reports from Lebanon said the SLA soldier was killed in a roadside bomb attack in the Jezzine area, north of the security zone, last night.

That incident followed an earlier explosion which killed a man working at a crossing point on the northern perimeter of the zone, near Kafr Huneh in the eastern sector.

Hizbullah claimed responsibility for that attack, maintaining that the man was actually a member of the SLA. Israeli security sources, however, said the man was a civilian and that the attack constituted a flagrant breach of the Grapes of Wrath understandings.

In a separate incident, a woman was seriously wounded in an explosion near Frun village, north of the security zone. Reports from Lebanon said it appeared that she had stepped on some sort of mine or had tripped an explosive device that had been planted in the area.

IAF planes attacked terrorist targets west of the Jezzine region last night. The IDF Spokesman said. The spokesman said the pilots reported accurate strikes and all planes returned safely to base. The raid was seen as a response to yesterday's roadside bomb attacks.

David Rudge

Labor's Cohen: We haven't learned lesson of '73

The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday took leave of OC Military Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon, who has been appointed OC Central Command after three years in the position. He will be replaced by Maj.-Gen. Amos Malka.

Committee chairman Uzi Landau (Likud) and previous chairman Ori Orr (Labor) both praised Ya'alon for his professional assessments, free of outside considerations.

Labor Party secretary-general Raanan Cohen, however, warned against getting stuck in a conceptual rut, when Ya'alon reportedly offered an assessment during a policy review that Syria is not interested in the military option.

"We have not learned the lessons of the Yom Kippur War, when the chief of General Staff and OC Military Intelligence [armed prime minister] Golda [Meir] despite the warnings by [Jordan's King] Hussein," Cohen said.

"We must warn against being conceptually bound. The intelligence establishment and early warning system of the IDF must work from the assumption that Syria can at any given point activate the military option to restore national honor and conquer the Golan Heights. This military option will get stronger the more distant the peace process becomes," he said.

Liat Collins

IDF: Tank in Russian museum had no bodies

The IDF confirmed yesterday that an IDF tank had been transferred to the former Soviet Union from Lebanon by the Syrians. But it denied reports from Russia that the tank held the bodies of four Israeli soldiers.

According to yesterday's *Ha'aretz*, citing NTV television in Moscow, known for its sensationalist reports, the M-48 tank was brought to a tank museum outside the Russian capital. The TV reported that the tank had been transferred from the battlefield so quickly that the bodies were not discovered until they had arrived. It was also not clear whether the tank was captured during one of the battles in the 1973 Yom Kippur War or later.

An Israeli Radio reporter in Moscow said that he had seen the tank still bearing IDF markings, but officials at the museum had never heard of any bodies being discovered in the tank. The officials also doubted that such an item could have been transferred without first being examined in Syria.

Arieh O'Sullivan

High Court asked to restrict hijack mastermind

A petition to restrict *Achille Lauro* hijacker Abu Abbas to territories of the Palestinian Authority is to be submitted to the High Court of Justice today, following a petition last week by right-wing activists calling for Abbas to be extradited and tried by Israel.

Abbas was responsible for the death of Jewish American Leon Klinghoffer, who was shot to death and thrown overboard in his wheelchair from the Italian cruise liner in 1985.

The High Court is being asked to order Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein to temporarily restrict Abbas to Gaza, saying there is a great probability Abbas might attempt to escape, as he has been an international fugitive for over 13 years.

Elli Wohlgeleitner

Saudis to pardon British nurses

Two British nurses jailed in Saudi Arabia for the murder of a colleague will be pardoned by King Fahd and freed, Press Association reported yesterday.

Quoting from a statement from the Saudi Arabian ambassador to Britain, Ghazi Algaosabi, the British national news agency said that the two nurses would return to Britain within days.

Deborah Parry, 39, and Lucille McLaughlan, 32, were convicted of the murder of Australian nurse Yvonne Gilford in August 1997, but have been in jail in the eastern Saudi town of Dammam since their arrest in December 1996.

AP

BAR-ILLAN

Continued from Page 1

Remnick said he was "disappointed, to put it mildly," by Bar-Ilan's denial. "He's been a newspaper editor, he's a respected political aide to the prime minister, he's criticized the press a lot and written a lot about it. I find it hard to believe he had a reporter from *The New Yorker* who comes and sits down

with him and starts taking notes, in what clearly is an interview, and then he goes and denies he ever said those things."

Jerusalem sources said this follows three embarrassing slips of the tongue by Bar-Ilan. Bar-Ilan's calling a statement by US President Bill Clinton "a verbal pose," for which he was reprimanded by the White House spokesman, saying Israel would agree to a Palestinian state in December 1996, which

angered Netanyahu; and his attack on *New York Times* correspondent Tom Friedman, whom he called anti-Zionist and apologized to later.

"The Israeli public is disgusted with these attacks, which actually are directed against me and which use my wife to that end," Netanyahu said on Shilon's program. "My wife is strong and wise and has been withstanding them bravely. She will continue to work for handicapped children and I will continue with my activities without paying attention to those things."

Netanyahu's statement was made five hours after his adviser's return from the US. He stayed there an extra day to make a speech to a pro-Israel organization of American Christians after having accompanied the prime minister during the series of talks with senior US officials and a meeting with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

Former prime minister Shimon Peres, who shared the platform with Netanyahu, said "prime ministers must be ready for slander against them." He expressed solidarity with Netanyahu, saying, "Every one of us has tasted that taste."

Former MK Yoash Tsidion told *The Jerusalem Post* that Remnick had misquoted him in the piece, although as it was a telephone interview he is prepared to give Remnick the benefit of the doubt. Tsidion added that Netanyahu "did a lot of things right, some of them he did the wrong way. Today there is no alternative to Netanyahu and I'd vote for him again."

News agencies contributed to this report.

Gore: Tension over peace process won't hurt US-Israel relations

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - Vice President Al Gore criticized

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat on Monday night for projecting mixed messages of peace and violence, saying that Arafat must declare, convincingly, that he accepts Israel's existence.

Gore also issued the administration's strongest assurance to date that the American-Israeli tensions over the peace process will do nothing to diminish their bilateral relations.

Long admired as a steady pro-Israel senator, Gore was greeted by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee at its annual banquet as almost a returning hero and his speech was interrupted by frequent applause.

Gore called Israel, "a strategic ally and friend" that the US must

support with "the highest level of loyalty - and we will."

"Our special relationship with Israel is unshakable, it is ironclad, eternal, and absolute. It does not depend on the peace process. It transcends the peace process."

"Our differences are momentary, not permanent. They are about means, and not ends."

"And let me say to my fellow citizens here in the US, to our friends in Israel, and let me say especially to the citizens of any nation who may wish Israel ill: Don't you even think for one minute that any differences about this or that between the governments of the US and Israel belie even the slightest weakening in our underlying unity of purpose."

Gore expressed empathy for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, saying he is "a man carrying the weight of the history

of the Jewish people on his shoulders," whom he has found "deeply concerned not only about the security dimensions of a peace agreement, but also about the true intentions of his neighbors."

"Peace on paper is not the same as peace in one's heart," Gore continued, in words that could have been uttered by Netanyahu himself. "The prime minister wants to know that his neighbors are truly seeking peace and not just a strategic foothold."

"The US shares these concerns, particularly when Chairman Arafat makes public statements that seem to undercut his signed commitments to peace. He cannot say one thing to the world and another thing to his own people. He must speak to his people in consistent and unambiguous terms about the permanent nature of the peace he is trying to reach and

declare a clear and unequivocal acceptance of the State of Israel."

"The US believes there is one authentic way for Israel's neighbors to prove their commitment to peace: fight terrorism. And that is why, in our approach to Chairman Arafat, we have been insisting strenuously that he owes this process a 100 percent attack on terrorism, 100 percent of the time, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year - and not one second less," Gore said, chanting the last five words to the rising cadence of applause.

There is "some cause for encouragement" in Arafat's efforts in recent months to "uproot" Hamas, Gore said.

Only once did Gore seem to prod Netanyahu to take into account Arab concerns, saying that while "one can never dismiss the effect of decades of organized

national hatred directed against Israel, neither should we dismiss out of hand the possibility that another attitude may have begun to take root, an attitude that favors ending this conflict."

"I have sensed this attitude... If this new attitude does really exist, it needs encouragement. Otherwise, it could vanish."

He repeated American policy that a Palestinian state should only come about through direct negotiations between the parties and indirectly criticized Arafat for stating recently that he would declare a state when the interim accords expire next May.

Meanwhile, Labor Party leader Ehud Barak cancelled a planned trip to Washington today and tomorrow for meetings with legislators and administration officials. Barak will, however, keep to plans to visit New York today.

Gingrich: Albright 'out of touch'

By TOM RAUM

WASHINGTON (AP) - The US posture in the peace process is comparable to an Israeli diplomat telling the US how to defend Texas, House Speaker Newt Gingrich said yesterday in a new round of accusations against the Clinton administration.

At a Capitol rally, Gingrich and three other congressional leaders pledged steadfast support for Israel. Gingrich's remarks were the most biting, renewing his criticism of US Secretary of State Madeleine

Albright. "When I see an American diplomat suggest to Israeli generals that our understanding of their security needs on the West Bank is better than their understanding - I'm looking at somebody who's been in fancy hotels too long and out of touch with reality."

A week ago, Gingrich accused Albright of being "an agent for the Palestinians." Gingrich said that when he and House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt go to Israel next week to participate in 50th anniversary celebrations, they

would go Jerusalem to visit the proposed site of the US Embassy. "The time is come to break the ground, build the building," Gingrich said.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott won a loud round of applause when he promised that the Senate would vote later this week in favor of a resolution supporting sanctions on Russia for selling nuclear technology to Iran.

"We're going to take action because that's the only thing they will understand and respect," Lott said.

Ramon calls for new elections

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Labor MK Haim Ramon said yesterday the crisis in the talks with the Palestinians is proof that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is being held captive by parts of his coalition, but prefers remaining at its head even at the price of abandoning Israel's security interests.

"Ramon said Netanyahu objects to forming a national unity government, but should he propose it Labor must consider it seriously. 'But the real solution to the situa-

tion is in new elections," he said. Labor Party leader Ehud Barak dismissed MK Binyamin Ben-Eliezer's call earlier this week to form a national unity government, saying it is not on the agenda.

But Ramon championed the idea yesterday. "If the prime minister were true to his word and preferred the state's interests, and would make a serious offer to Labor that would enable moving the peace process forward and going toward a final settlement according to principles Labor could accept, I would advise my

party to consider it," he said. Ramon noted, however, that "this is a hypothetical idea. The ball is entirely in the hands of the prime minister, who prefers a coalition with [Moleder's] Gandhi [Rehavim Ze'evi] and the National Religious Party to a government that can advance the peace process."

As long as this is the situation, the real solution is holding new elections, so the public could treat the prime minister not according to his promises, but on the basis of his performance, he said.

Israel, US dispute effectiveness of Congress sanctions on Russia

By STEVE RODAN

Israeli and US officials are disputing the effectiveness of American sanctions on Russian companies that supply Iran with missile technology, the subject of legislation that the US Senate prepares to vote on today.

The dispute centers on whether the government of Russian President Boris Yeltsin has sufficient power to stop Russian companies from transferring missile technology to Tehran. US officials say the Yeltsin government is too weak and divided for such a task. Their Israeli counterparts disagree.

"The Russian government doesn't control the country," said Max Singer, a leading American strategist and US Defense Department consultant who is also a researcher for Bar Ilan University's Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies. "If I wanted something I wouldn't go to Yeltsin or the Foreign Ministry. The world is making a big mistake taking Russia seriously."

The Pentagon recently held a conference of Russian experts to discuss the future of the federation. Participants said the conclusion was that the current instability in Russia would last at least another generation.

Israeli officials responsible for monitoring the transfer of Russian technology to Iran disagree. They said Moscow now has the same capability of stopping transfers of any military technology as the Kremlin did under the former Soviet Union.

At a meeting yesterday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged visiting Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Posolavsky to take steps to halt Russian involvement in Iran's armament efforts. Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Bentsur made similar requests in their meetings with him yesterday.

Iran is developing two missiles - Shihab 3 and Shihab 4 - with

ranges of 1,300 and 2,000 kilometers, respectively - with primarily Russian and some Chinese help, Israeli and US intelligence sources say. The sources agree that unless the missile program is stopped within the next few months Iran will complete a prototype of the missile by early 1999.

"Today, the technology transfer is being encouraged by the [Russian] government and is part of its foreign policy of renewing alliances in the Middle East," a senior Israeli official said.

Russian diplomats and analysts assert that the Yeltsin government has the ability to stop technology transfers to Iran. Stanislav Rodionov, a scientist and counterterrorism expert at Moscow's Space Research Institute, said in a recent interview, "The security in Russia is rather high. The Defense Ministry and Atomic Energy Ministry are responsible and are improving at a good pace."

US and Israeli officials do agree that the executive order issued in January by then-Russian prime minister Viktor Chernomyrdin had not stopped the flow of technology

to Iran. "Iran is pursuing its weapons program with unabated vigor," said US Senator Sam Brownback, a Kansas Republican who chairs the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, during a hearing last Thursday. "Missile cooperation with Russia is increasing. Nuclear cooperation is continuing."

US critics, however, say congressional sanctions on Russia alone would not stop Iran's missile and nuclear weapons program. They said China and the Ukraine continue to supply Iran with help in its ballistic missile and mass destruction weapons program, including biological and nuclear.

But the critics say both Israel and the US are playing down Chinese participation in Iran's military programs. On April 29, *The Washington Times* reported that the Clinton administration has drafted a space cooperation agreement with Beijing that permits the transfer of technology to a Chinese agency that is a key developer of weapons-related technology.

Sneh: US leaving Israel to face Iran alone

By STEVE RODAN

The US is rapidly losing its grip on Tehran and leaving Israel to face it alone, Labor MK Ephraim Sneh, a leading expert on Iran, said yesterday.

Speaking at a Tel Aviv University conference on Iran, Sneh said that the American administration's decision not to impose sanctions on the French firm Total SA, which plans to develop Iran's gas and oil reserves, marks a watershed that will leave Israel to face Iran's emerging ballistic missile and nuclear weapon capabilities without any allies.

"The significance of this is that the United States has accepted the European path and not that the Europeans have accepted the American path," he said. "This is the beginning of a very dangerous process whereby we stand alone."

Sneh said that in 18 months Iran will be able to deploy a ballistic missile able to strike Israel. Within three to seven years, Iran will achieve nuclear capability, he said, "unless it takes a shortcut and reaches that goal even sooner."

Netanyahu said on Shilon's program. "My wife is strong and wise and has been withstanding them bravely. She will continue to work for handicapped children and I will continue with my activities without paying attention to those things."

Netanyahu's statement was made five hours after his adviser's return from the US. He stayed there an extra day to make a speech to a pro-Israel organization of American Christians after having accompanied the prime minister during the series of talks with senior US officials and a meeting with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

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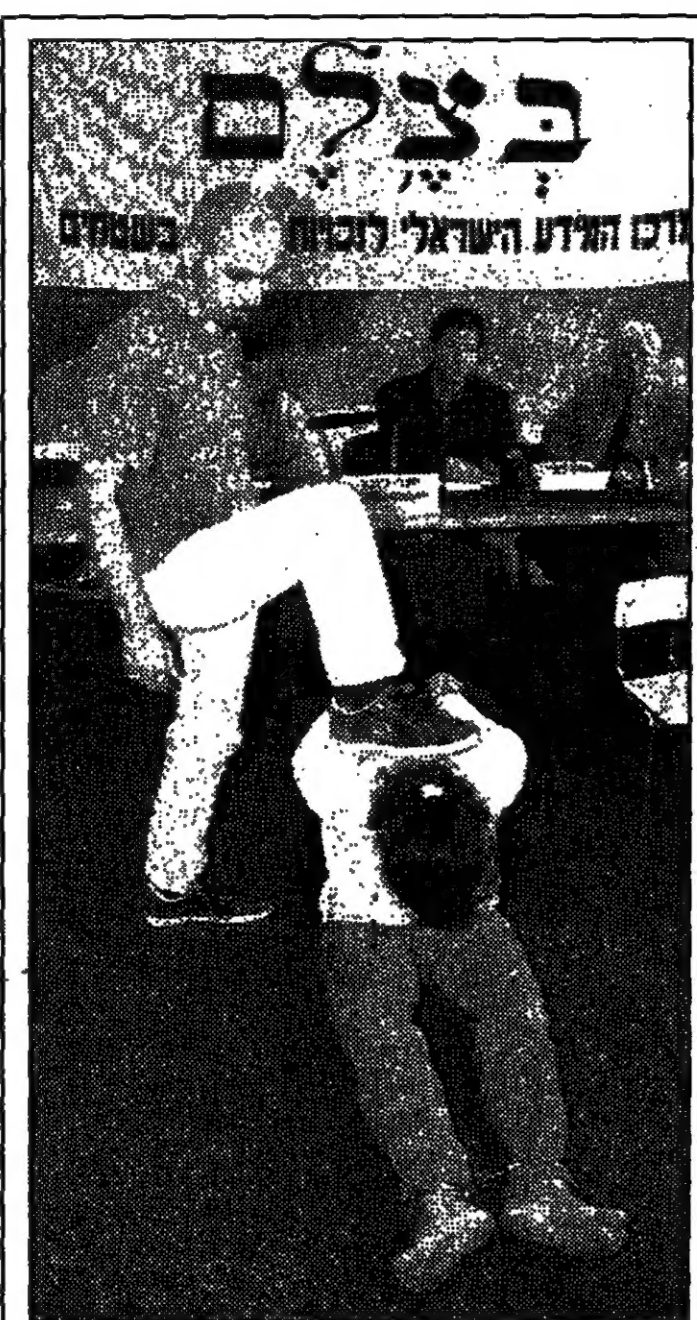
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GSS torture 'routine'

B'tselem activists at a press conference yesterday enact one of the tortures they say are 'routinely' used by the General Security Service. B'tselem, in a report, said 85 percent of Palestinians interrogated are tortured through a variety of methods, including violent shaking, shackling, and being tied up in painful positions, though many are later released as innocent. Released Palestinians have told AP that agents also place urine- or vomit-drenched hoods over their heads. The GSS says that, in some instances, violent methods are necessary to elicit information to forestall terrorist attacks. It says it has prevented dozens of attacks during the past year alone. The High Court of Justice will today hear a petition by human rights groups asking that torture be banned.

(Text: Mohammed Najib; photo: Kevin Unger)

W.J.R.O. -
The World Jewish Restitution Organization
mourns the untimely death of
Rabbi MOSHE SHERER
the distinguished leader of
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Court begins hearing petitions on draft deferments

MKs, students seek draft of yeshiva students

By DAN IZENBERG

Eight percent of the 18-year-old men who were eligible for the draft last year were given deferments on the basis of their status as full-time yeshiva students, the state informed the High Court of Justice yesterday during the first day of hearings on two petitions to change the current deferment system.

One petition, submitted by the Tel Aviv University student union, called for the abolition of the deferment system, which was initiated in 1949 and greatly expanded in 1977.

The other, submitted by Meretz MKs Haim Oron and Amnon Rubinstein and five reserve soldiers, called for a three percent ceiling on the number of deferments to be granted each year. There has been no ceiling since the signing of the coalition agreement in 1977.

The petitions are being heard by a panel of 11 justices, who peppered Uzi Fogelman, of the State Attorney's Office, and Raanan Har-Zahav, representing Oron and Rubinstein, with questions throughout the two-hour session.

In 1986, a three-justice panel rejected a petition by Yehuda Ressler, now representing the Tel Aviv University students, which called for abolition of the deferments.

However, the court said that the

arrangement should be reexamined from time to time.

Fogelman told the court that Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai had concluded that the considerations which led his predecessors to grant deferments to all yeshiva students are still valid.

Among the reasons he gave are that yeshiva students would have serious difficulty adjusting to army life, they would have difficulty overcoming the feeling that they were wasting their time by not studying Torah, and that they might hurt the army rather than help.

Many of the justices wanted to know what made Mordechai think haredim might not make effective soldiers. "What is this argument based on?" asked Justice Eliyahu Mazza. "Empirical facts based on the experience of haredi soldiers who were conscripted and afterward dropped out because of unsuitability?"

Fogelman acknowledged that this was not the case.

"This estimation is based on reasoning," Fogelman said, adding that until four years ago, all yeshiva students with draft deferments had undergone medical tests and had proven medically fit to serve.

During the last four years, however, the army has waived the tests for yeshiva students who asked for dispensation on

grounds of modesty.

Justice Yitzhak Englund asked Har-Zahav to justify the petition to the court when the Knesset is already currently dealing with the issue, a reference to Labor MK Ehud Barak's bill calling for the conscription of yeshiva students.

Har-Zahav replied that as long as the situation is as it is today, the court must address the question of whether the current arrangement is reasonable.

The justices, who stressed that the state lacked elementary information on the population of yeshiva students that had received deferments, asked Fogelman to prepare the following information for the next session.

• What is the precise procedure for receiving a deferment?

• How many pacifists have been granted deferments?

• What bills on the question of conscripting yeshiva students are before the Knesset?

• What provisions regarding deferments have been made in the latest coalition agreements?

• How many yeshiva students who receive deferments are allowed to hold jobs as teachers?

• How many students have taken advantage of the 1977 arrangement whereby any high school student who takes the five-point matriculation exam in Talmud is eligible for a deferment?



Meretz MKs Haim Oron (left) and Amnon Rubinstein chat at yesterday's High Court hearing on their petition calling for a change in the system of granting draft deferments to yeshiva students. (Itzhak Harari)

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Freedom of Information Law passes unanimously

By LIAT COLLINS

In a move being hailed as "revolutionary" by civil rights groups, the Knesset yesterday passed the final reading of the Freedom of Information Law. The law was promoted by MK Dedi Zucker (Meretz) and presented as government-sponsored legislation by Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi. It passed unanimously by 26 votes.

The new law is the result of unusual cooperation among various NGOs, including the Coalition for Freedom of Information, the

government, and individual MKs from both the opposition and coalition.

"The law determines that the information belongs to you - the citizen - and not the authorities. If they do not provide the information you want, they must explain their reasoning," Zucker told reporters.

Under the law, local authorities, government ministries, the Knesset, the state comptroller, Beit Hanassi, government companies, and the courts must provide information requested by citizens, residents, foreign workers, and resi-

dents of the territories - and every ministry must publish information even if not specifically requested.

Until now someone requesting information had to explain the reason why. "The right to information is not a new one, but this is the first time it is recognized in a law determining the means of carrying it out. It will require a change in the thinking of public officials and civil servants," said Hanegbi.

Rabbi Uri Regev, director of the Reform Movement's Israel Religious Action Committee, one of the groups which pushed for the

legislation, said it would have far-reaching implications on material concerning health, environment, and minorities, among other fields.

However, one clause lists a large number of exemptions, mainly for reasons of security, privacy, and trade or professional secrets. If a request is refused on these grounds, the courts may still determine that the information should nonetheless be handed over.

"I think we found the balance between the rights of citizens and security needs which are also in the citizens' interests," Zucker said.

Patient attacks psychiatric hospital doctor

By JUDY SIEGEL

The director of the emergency room at the Geha psychiatric hospital was attacked by a patient yesterday. The patient, apparently a drug addict, tried to stab Dr. Leon Karp with a sharp letter opener and beat him viciously all over his body.

Karp, the fourth doctor to be attacked in the past two weeks, was treated at the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus and sent home to recover. The Geha Mental Health Center, a state-owned hospi-

tal in Petah Tikva, filed a complaint with the police against the attacker, who was brought in by police for investigation but later released.

The patient asked to be hospitalized, but after examining him, Karp recommended he instead be referred to a drug rehabilitation center.

The patient suddenly grabbed a letter opener from the doctor's desk and struggled with Karp, trying to stab him.

The physician managed to avoid being stabbed, but he was beaten badly.

Doctors at Geha immediately went on strike for the rest of the day in protest against the violence. Within the past two weeks, a senior Prison Service doctor was murdered by a car bomb; a Kaplan Hospital doctor had his nose broken by a patient waiting in the emergency room; and the national soccer team physician was injured when a fan threw a soft-drink can at him.

Israel Medical Association chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar declared that "violent acts arouse much anxiety among physicians and are

liable to prevent them from functioning normally." He demanded that the authorities post policemen in every emergency room to deter attackers.

Acting Health Ministry spokesman Yair Amikam was not aware of the incident last night, but he said that Health Minister Yehoshua Mazza has been "shocked" by the recent violence.

The minister "opposes turning hospitals into armed camps, but he will ask the authorities to look into the security situation there."

RUSSIAN PRESS REVIEW

By YOSEF BEGUN

Veterans celebrate

VE Day was commemorated by a parade in Jerusalem and festive gatherings around the country. In *Vesti Jerusalem*, Bina Smechova wrote that the parade of Red Army veterans, together with IDF soldiers and officers, which had taken place for the third year, is now more customary for Jerusalemites.

Commenting on Labor Party leader Ehud Barak's meeting with veterans in Hadera, where he said that "without the victory of the Red Army in World War II, this country would not exist," *Vremya's* Gary Resnikovsky said that politicians regard the veterans as an important electorate.

Barak tried to assure the veterans, many of whom have trouble

making ends meet, that "such people should not have to live here in need without a roof over their heads."

Clash of cultures

According to a survey, reported *Tzippi Malkov* in *Vesti*, more than half of Jerusalemites would leave the city if there were a haredi mayor, while three quarters of the haredim polled expressed a desire to have a haredi mayor.

Novosti Nedeli quoted Labor MK Sofia Landver as saying that as long as there is no separation between state and religion, Israel will remain among several fundamentalist states.

Dov Kontorin in *Vesti* criticized those whom he called the "priestly

class," who present their refusal to do productive work as a religious ideology. But he warned against aggravated attacks against haredim, who "deserve praise not punishment" because they stand up against "the chimera of the new Middle East."

Yisrael Ba'aliya in crisis?

Last week's meeting of the Yisrael Ba'aliya central committee "was like a clash between two camps," wrote Lazer Dranker in *Vesti*. Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein was reelected chairman of the central committee. The opposition was headed by Yuri Stern and Michael Nudelman (the latter also ran for the position).

Alex Pritulsky said in *Vesti* that "the party leadership successfully used the situation by bringing, just before the session, over 50 new members... most of them officers in the two ministries headed by Yisrael Ba'aliya leaders."

Although Edelstein said that "there is no opposition in the party, except for several disgruntled people who were supported by a handful of members," Dranker noted that some members said that "the voting was conducted by party leaders who want at least 51 percent of the party stock and whom everyone [on the committee] fears."

Novosti Nedeli quoted Stern as saying, "We did not leave the party... we will continue to seek ways to get the party out of crisis."

Arabs protest demolition of Beduin home

By DAVID RUDGE

Work is set to start soon on rebuilding a house in an unrecognized Beduin village near Karmiel that was destroyed under an administrative demolition order on Sunday.

The decision to rebuild the house was taken by the Israeli Arab leadership's monitoring committee.

Abel Inblawi, spokesman for the forum, said a letter had been sent to Interior Minister Eli Shpis informing him of the decision and protesting the demolition.

Local residents claimed that the home, which comes under the jurisdiction of the Misgav Regional Council, had been there for over 50 years and that there was no reason for it to have been demolished.

The allegation was categorically denied by Leonid Malikin, chief engineer of the local building and planning commission. "This building was constructed in the second half of 1977, without any planning or building permission," Malikin said.

"This was a new illegal building and the commission had no alternative but to issue an administrative demolition order. The owner was informed and petitioned Acre Magistrate's Court against the order, but the court rejected the petition and the order was carried out."

Inblawi said that representatives of the monitoring committee are scheduled to meet Shpis in two weeks and would raise the problem of illegal building and unrecognized settlements in the Arab sector.

"The Interior Ministry and the national building and planning commission have so far failed to give their approval to development plans that have been submitted to them by Arab councils," said Inblawi.

"The delay in approving these plans, coupled with the demolition of houses, constitutes continued discrimination against Arab councils and the Arab community," he added.

No reaction was available from the Interior Ministry.

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Barak: Court reform not aimed at creating constitutional court

By DAN IZENBERG

The recommendations of the Orr Committee on reforming the structure of the courts are aimed at speeding up the litigation process and have nothing to do with turning the High Court of Justice into a constitutional court, Supreme Court President Aharon Barak told the Knesset Law Committee yesterday.

The reform is based primarily on turning the magistrate's courts into courts of first instance in all but a handful of cases — many of which are now dealt with in district court. District courts will primarily become courts of appeals, while the Supreme Court will deal mainly with matters of legal principle and precedent or cases with far-reaching social consequences.

Contrary to press reports, Barak said, the recommendations have the full support of all

judges in the system. However, the Israel Bar Association is opposed to the reform and several MKs expressed concern at possible implications of the recommendations.

Barak also tried to allay suspicions that the aim of the recommendations is to divest the Supreme Court of its current responsibilities so that it can devote all its time to dealing with constitutional matters.

"The number of constitutional cases the court deals with is minimal," said Barak. "Today, there are five constitutional cases pending. Since the two basic human rights laws were passed in 1992, the court has dealt with no more than 10 cases. We cannot, and do not want to build a constitutional court around such a small number of cases."

Barak said he hopes to reduce the time it takes to deal with cases. For example, a civil suit takes two years between submission and verdict. He hopes to reduce this to three or

four months, if no witnesses are necessary, and up to a year if they are. High Court petitions, which take an average of 18 months, will take six months.

With much of the caseload being transferred from the district to the magistrate's courts, the magistrate's courts in bigger cities will be expanded and divided into sections which will specialize in different types of cases, Barak said. Each section will be headed by a deputy court president. The expansion of the magistrate's courts will require an additional 60 judges, he said.

The Finance Ministry has agreed to underwrite the expansion over four years, including 1998, and the first 15 judges have already been appointed, he said. In the first stage, all magistrate's court civil cases will pass through a section called the "section for resolving disputes." Here, they will be classified and sent to the various sectors, including

a special section within the court aimed at finding non-trial solutions or even arbitration outside the court system.

Many of the MKs expressed concern that magistrate's court judges would not be able to handle difficult cases. Yael Dayan said it had taken a long battle to get the district courts to appoint three-judge panels to hear cases of severe domestic violence. She feared the achievement would fall victim to the reform.

Barak said he was certain that the magistrate's court judges would be able to cope with the challenge, adding that he would make sure they all took special training courses in the various areas with which they would have to deal.

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi said he hopes the bill turning the recommendations of the Orr Committee into law would be passed by the end of the year.

Murder rate doubles

By LIAT COLLINS

There were 60 murders in Israel during the first quarter of the year, more than twice the number for the same period in 1997, according to State Attorney Edna Arbel.

There is a murder every 56 hours; a rape every 12 hours; an incident of bodily harm every 21 minutes; and a car theft every 11 minutes, according to Arbel's figures, presented at a meeting of the Knesset Interior Committee.

"The picture at present is difficult and should definitely be cause for concern for all of us," Arbel said. "It should mobilize us into action on the issue of violence."

Minister of Internal Security Avigdor Kahalani promised to bring down the crime rate but said it is not just a job for the police.

"The war on crime includes other establishments," he said. "The [police] must catch the criminals and put them behind bars. But to change behavioral norms one must also look toward the education system, the social services and the court system."

The meeting was a follow-up to last week's session on the murder of Ya'acov Ziegelboim, chief medical officer of the Prisons Service.

Police Inspector-General Yehuda Wilk called for more support from the legislators.

"Society and the Knesset must understand that I work with the authority I have," Wilk said. "If I'm not allowed to put down a mattress on the floor [of a detention cell] for a detainee... I won't make arrests because I don't have anywhere to put the people. My authority to keep detainees in these conditions was taken away but I was not given the budget for new prisons."

Committee chairman Sallah Tarif (Labor) said: "Two years ago we worried about terrorist activity. Now the fear is of violence on the streets."



Oldest illustrated Bible arrives at Israel Museum

Israel Museum director James Snyder and Dr. Iris Fishof, curator of the museum's exhibition 'In the light of the Menora — story of a symbol,' examine two pages from the first Leningrad Bible, which the Russian State Library in St. Petersburg has lent to the exhibit. The Leningrad Bible was written in Egypt in 929 CE and is probably the oldest illustrated bible in existence, though only 241 of its parchments remain.

(Efraim Kilshuk)

Yitzhak Levy: Immigrants are Israel's 'oxygen'

By LIAT COLLINS

The absorption of Jews from around the world is "oxygen to the State of Israel," Education Minister Yitzhak Levy said yesterday in the Knesset.

"If the oxygen is cut off, I don't know what will happen," he continued.

Levy was answering several motions on Israeli-Diaspora relations. The debate followed a meeting of the First International Jewish Youth Congress in the House.

Some 120 adolescents from Israel and around the world attended the meeting.

Levy said the major danger facing Jewish youth abroad is assimilation and that an obvious answer to this is Jewish education. He criticized the Jewish Agency for becoming less and less active in this field.

He repeated the idea that if every Jewish youth could spend one year studying in Israel, the result would be a closer connection with the Diaspora and greater immigration.

Amid light heckling from MK Taleb A-Sanaa (Democratic Arab Party), Levy said unless Israel remains an obviously Jewish state it is doubtful Jewish youth abroad will find a reason to feel a connection to it. He stressed, however, that there is no contradiction between Israel being both Jewish and democratic.

Another aspect of Israel-Diaspora relations was raised yesterday as MKs from both opposition and coalition called for a parliamentary commission of inquiry into the Maccabiah disaster. The

move was initiated by MK Micha Goldman (Labor) and gained the support of, among others, Communications Minister Limor Livnat and MK Ophir Pines (Labor), who visited Sacha Alterman in Australia last week, shortly before she underwent more operations for the injuries she received when a bridge collapsed at the opening ceremony of last year's Maccabiah.

FUND

Continued from Page 1

The fund was initiated by the Peres Center for Peace, which will act as consultant to the venture, while the fund is to be managed by Evergreen Canada Israel Investments, the Palestinian Capital company run by Hani Masri, and the International Finance Corporation, the World Bank's private financing arm.

Despite the fund's name, Evergreen CEO Ofer Neeman said the fund would be investing

in a wide variety of fields, including telecommunications, textiles, food, tourism, and infrastructure.

According to the Neeman, about 20 Israeli businessmen each made a \$1m. investment in the fund. Among those involved were Koor Industries CEO Benjamin Gaon, Delta CEO Dov Lautman, and Clal Industries CEO Rimon Ben-Shaul.

"The business community has realized that the peace process is too sensitive to leave to the politicians," Gaon said.

Lautman emphasized that the

fund is entirely a business venture. "It is better to bring business in order to develop the Palestinian area than make donations," he said. "If the Jews abroad had brought businesses instead of making donations, Israel would have been in a much better situation earlier on and a lot of money would not have been wasted."

He said that Delta, which has established successful textile operations in Egypt and Jordan, is looking at the possibility of setting up a factory in the Karni industrial park.

El Al could face lawsuit for searching passenger

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — The US Supreme Court has agreed to decide whether a New York woman can sue El Al for emotional trauma she says she suffered five years ago after a security search as she tried to board a flight to Tel Aviv.

Tsui Yuan Tseng, a nutritionist at Beth Israel Medical Center, sued El Al in a New York state court. She is seeking \$5 million in damages and claiming that the airline "assaulted and falsely imprisoned and physically and mentally abused her."

El Al argued that an international treaty, known as the Warsaw Convention, bars the claim in a US state court. Instead, the airline says, the treaty covers all injuries sustained during international air travel.

Tseng was classified as "high risk" by airline security at New York's Kennedy Airport on May 22, 1993. According to court papers, Tseng was taken to a private room, where she was subjected to a 15-minute search of her entire body, including her breasts and groin area, by a female security guard. El Al personnel then decided she did

not present a security risk and allowed her to board the flight.

Tseng, however, said that because of the search, she was "emotionally traumatized and disturbed" throughout her month-long trip to Israel and later underwent medical and psychiatric treatment.

The case, which will not be argued until the fall, does not deal with the actual propriety of the search, but instead about the right to sue in American courts for emotional

injury and the reach of the Warsaw Convention, which deals with physical injury.

A lower federal court ruling, if upheld by the Supreme Court, would allow Tseng to sue El Al under state law. In New York, an El Al spokeswoman said she was unaware of the case.

The Air Transport Association, representing 22 American and three foreign airlines, said the case is of international importance because

the lower court's ruling had undermined the Warsaw Convention and could affect the ability of the airline industry to carry out security measures.

Tseng's attorney, Robert Silk, said it was "total nonsense that this would have an effect on airline security."

"If they wanted to search her, they had a right. But they treated her like she was a criminal, without rights."

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Philatelic Museum opens

The National Philatelic Museum, with exhibits on 150 years of postal services here, opened yesterday in Tel Aviv's Eretz Yisrael Museum. Sponsored by the Postal Authority and the Tel Aviv Development Foundation, the \$5 million museum is meant to help mark the 50th anniversary of independence. Multimedia and computerized displays are on show, along with stamps from Israel's first Doar Ivri series.

Judy Siegel

NEWS

in brief

Body of missing man found

The body of Kess Avraham Maharat, 80, a recent immigrant from Ethiopia, was found yesterday near Kiryat Gat. Maharat, who had been missing since Sunday, apparently died as a result of dehydration. He had left his Ashdod home by taxi for Ashkelon and Hamei Yoav, but never arrived. Maharat had suffered from diabetes.

Itim

Weizman shuns Deri request

President Ezer Weizman, on the first day after his inauguration for a second term, yesterday flatly refused to intervene to keep MK Arye Deri from being tried for public malfeasance.

Deri is presently on trial for fraud and breach of trust, but Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein has recommended that his Knesset immunity be lifted so he can also be tried for alleged misconduct while serving as minister of the interior. That recommendation has not yet been acted upon.

"On no account will I interfere, nor will I express an opinion on the matter until the legal system has determined what it has to determine," Weizman told a delegation of Shas activists.

Haim Shapiro

Clalit members face extra charge

Kupat Holim Clalit members who need Magen David Adom's mobile intensive care units (MICU) are liable to be charged much more than the regular fee because the health fund, according to MDA, owes it NIS 5 million.

If the money is not transferred by June 1, MDA said Clalit members will have to pay extra for the service. The Clalit spokeswoman commented that the figures given by MDA were "exaggerated," and that detailed bills had not been supplied.

Judy Siegel

Not all fresh vegetables healthy

The Health Ministry's food service administration has found that fresh parsley marketed by Salat Glat in Gush Katif contains excessive levels of pesticides. The administration has therefore ordered that the parsley be removed from the stores and destroyed.

In addition, the Consumer Protection Authority held separate checks of leafy vegetables and found that parsley and lettuce from Yerakot Beshafa Lemehadrin and coriander, lettuce and dill from Meshek Hanan in Moshav Batza also had illegal amounts of pesticides.

These too were removed from the shelves and destroyed.

Judy Siegel

Magazine survey has funny ring to it, says Pelephone

By JUDY SIEGEL

Pelephone said yesterday it has uncovered a written contract by which its competitor, Cellcom, would buy 5,000 copies of the magazine *Obyektiv* and pay a total of \$137,000 for rights to use the results of a survey comparing the services of the two companies.

Pelephone disclosed this information to explain why it has refused to cooperate with *Obyektiv* in a second survey now being carried out.

In March, the Nazareth District Court ordered the disclosure of the documents at Pelephone's request. Pelephone has filed a libel suit for NIS 3 million against *Obyektiv* and its managing director, Adi Zurabin, after an August

1997 issue of the consumer magazine declared that Cellcom was the better of the two companies. This finding was used by Cellcom in its advertising.

The agreement between the magazine and Cellcom was signed before the issue was published. Pelephone claimed that the deal was proof of the magazine's "lack of objectivity" in preparing the article.

After Pelephone publicly objected to the results of the survey, Cellphone hit Pelephone with a counter suit for NIS 360,000.

The country's other consumer magazine, *Baduk* of the Israel Consumer Council, does not allow results of its investigations to be used for commercial purposes.

BOYCOTT

Continued from Page 1

Gabriella Cohen, deputy director of the Industry and Trade Ministry's Foreign Trade Administration in charge of international agreements, said that since there is no customs agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, there must be a single customs umbrella, as outlined by the Paris Agreement.

"The Paris Agreement is a fact and it can't be ignored," she said. "Solving this issue is a matter of political will and desire to advance the peace process and not to create conflicts."

AP adds: Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak yesterday urged Europe to put pressure on Israel to abide by peace agreements.

Mubarak, who along with French President Jacques Chirac has called for an international conference to revive the peace process, accused Israel of "seizing on the most flimsy pretexts" to renege on the Oslo Accords.

SUHARTO

Continued from Page 1

Students forced their way into the halls and onto the roof of Parliament, occupying the building ahead of what is touted to be the largest yet in months of growing anti-government protests — a rally that the opposition hopes will draw up to 1 million students and workers to a park just outside the white-columned presidential palace.

Army tanks and trucks rolled out by the dozens just before midnight last night, unloading barbed wire for barricades to block off the park and taking up positions on streets around the site — gearing up to confront whatever today's protest brings.

While much of the public has turned against him in the face of an economic crisis, Indonesia's top military brass are backing Suharto, a retired general who himself came to power in time of turmoil in 1966 — and has ruled with little toleration for dissent ever since.

"I will not be prepared to be elected any more," Suharto said yesterday. "I have taken the decision as president to implement and lead national reform immediately."

Suharto's iron-fisted rule provided stability and, until finan-

cial crisis set in last year, economic growth for this sprawling Southeast Asian archipelago of 202 million people.

Critics accuse him of widespread human rights abuses and of jostling over a regime riddled with corruption and nepotism.

More than 500 people have died in looting and arson spree following a rash of student protests.

Suharto himself did not give a timetable for change, saying elections would be held "as soon as possible." But he stressed that he would follow the country's 1945 constitution, which could mean at least three to six months before a new vote.

He promised to appoint a special reform council to draft new laws for parliamentary elections and change the structure of Parliament. After the elections, a new president would be appointed by a special assembly, made up of lawmakers and government appointees.

"If we do not uphold the constitution, the country will be finished," he said, adding that "bloodshed and even civil war" could result.

Amien Rais, Indonesia's main opposition leader, estimated it would take up to two years to hold elections. But he predicted a speedy end for Suharto.

Pakistan: Nuclear tests only 'matter of time'

Prime Minister Sharif:
We're not afraid of sanctions

Pakistani Foreign Minister Gohar Ayub Khan said it would only be "a matter of time" before the country carried out nuclear tests in retaliation for India's blasts, a Japanese newspaper reported yesterday.

In a phone interview with the *Mainichi Shimbun*, Khan said comments by a Japanese envoy suggesting Pakistan had not yet made up its mind about whether to carry out such tests were "incorrect."

"It is just a matter of time," he told the *Mainichi* late Monday. Khan added that a decision already had been reached about conducting a test, but declined to elaborate, the *Mainichi* said.

Seiichi Noboru, an envoy dispatched by Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, said on Monday after meeting with Khan that his impression was that the government had yet to make up its mind about tests.

"My understanding is that the Pakistani government is reviewing the situation very cautiously, very carefully," he said.

Khan confirmed reports that US Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott, who met with Pakistani officials last week, had offered assistance, including unblocking Pakistan's receipt of F-16 fighters, if it did not match India's nuclear tests. Khan said Pakistan had not made any formal response, the

Mainichi said. US Senate Intelligence Committee leaders said on Sunday they would give Pakistan the fight-back in return for restraint on the nuclear question.

Pakistan paid for 28 F-16 fighters in 1990, but their delivery has been blocked by a congressional ban aimed at preventing Pakistan from developing nuclear weapons. Meanwhile, Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said yesterday that Pakistan was not afraid of the economic sanctions which a Pakistani nuclear test could trigger.

"As far as sanctions are concerned, we are already used to them. We are not going to be afraid of them," he said at a function to celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of state-run Radio Pakistan.

"In this connection, all the justice-seeking nations should be with us. Our friends are already with us and the entire nation is strongly united," he said in a speech which was broadcast live.

His speech gave no clue as to whether Pakistan would go ahead with a test to demonstrate its nuclear capability against what it sees as a threat from India.

The US, Britain and Japan all have urged Pakistan not to conduct a nuclear test in response to India's five. Both Washington and Japan have said they will punish Pakistan with sanctions if it defies calls for restraint.



Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif (right) confers with Information Minister Mushahid Hussain yesterday in Islamabad. (AP)

Islamabad has voiced "deep disappointment" at what is seen as lukewarm sanctions on New Delhi by Washington and Tokyo and the condemnation from major industrial powers that convened for a Group of Eight (G-8) Industrialized States summit over the weekend.

"It is a very serious threat to Pakistan," Sharif said and complained the world had not done enough in terms of sanctions against New Delhi.

Sharif said Pakistan has taken serious notice of the Indian interior minister's warning to Islamabad over Kashmir, a major flashpoint

in Indo-Pakistan relations. India and Pakistan have fought two of their three wars over the disputed Himalayan region, two thirds of which is controlled by New Delhi and the rest by Islamabad.

"You must have heard today that they are discussing their aggressive designs towards Kashmir. By

grace of God we are prepared for any trial and the whole world knows that Pakistan has the ability to defend itself," Sharif said.

Indian Home Minister Lal Krishna Advani told reporters on Monday that India's nuclear tests showed New Delhi would take a tough stance over Kashmir insur-

gency. India accuses Pakistan of aiding Kashmiri militants, but Islamabad denies the charges and says it only provides diplomatic and moral support to freedom fighters there.

Sharif said it should become clear to the world that India's nuclear program was hegemonic and aggressive.

"Now the whole world believes that the fanatic fundamentalist rulers in India would not hesitate to cross the last threshold of aggression," he said.

Pakistani government officials fear that India, emboldened by divisions among Western powers over its tests, may strike at separatist guerrillas in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir.

Pakistan says it has the ability to carry out a nuclear test within 24 hours, but is in no hurry to do so. "We can live with sanctions, as national security is supreme to economic or other needs," Finance Minister Sartaj Aziz said in an interview with the English-language daily *The News*. "We already faced such sanctions, and the country can manage again with full support and cooperation of the nation."

Aziz said the nature and duration of sanctions will determine the extent of impact on the economy.

He said in the case of India only 10 percent of foreign assistance as percentage of exports had been affected.

But in the case of Pakistan the impact would be close to \$3.0 billion, roughly a third of exports, he said. (News agencies)

Milosevic provokes Montenegro

By DONALD FORBES

BELGRADE (Reuters) — Montenegro's parliament was holding an emergency session yesterday to protest the sacking of Federal Prime Minister Radjko Kotic in a struggle for power that political sources said risked destroying Yugoslavia.

Kotic's dismissal on Monday provoked a constitutional and political crisis between Serbia and Montenegro, with Montenegrin leaders warning they would refuse to work with an "illegal" government.

Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, who engineered the ouster through Montenegrin allies in the federal parliament, was meeting party leaders. He was not expected to name a new federal premier until later in the week.

The move against Kotic brought to a head the political battle for control of Yugoslavia between Milosevic and reformist

Montenegrin President Milo Djukanovic.

Political sources said the struggle could be the last act in the disintegration of Yugoslavia, now composed only of Serbia and Montenegro since the secession of four former republics in 1991-92.

Djukanovic told supporters in his capital Podgorica on Monday: "The decision [to remove Kotic and his government] is a blow against all of us... This is an act of breaking up Yugoslavia."

Kotic was not highly regarded as prime minister, but his dismissal was the latest in a long series of political crises provoked by Milosevic to protect his personal rule and the 50-year socialist monopoly of power in Yugoslavia.

Djukanovic's failure to save Kotic was a tactical defeat, but his challenge to Milosevic's authority will be sharpened if the coalition of parties which won him the presidency triumphs again in republican parliamentary elections

on May 31.

An opinion poll in the Serbian weekly *Argumenty* showed a majority of people blamed Milosevic for the confrontation with Montenegro.

The small southern republic has equal status in Yugoslavia despite having a fraction of Serbia's population and economic clout. It is landlocked Serbia's direct gateway to Adriatic ports.

Former Montenegrin president Momir Bulatovic, a Milosevic ally whom Djukanovic defeated in presidential elections last year, orchestrated Kotic's fall on Milosevic's behalf.

The prime minister was accused of incompetence, but political sources said Milosevic's main grievance against him was that he refused to take sides against Djukanovic.

Bulatovic's Socialist People's Party (SNP) was expected to be invited to nominate the next federal prime minister, possibly

Bulatovic himself.

Under a convention between the two republics, when the federal president is Serbian, as Milosevic is, the prime minister is Montenegrin.

Bulatovic and Djukanovic confront each other again in the May 31 elections which will affect the balance of power in the federal parliament from which Milosevic derives his own office as Yugoslav head of state.

Djukanovic, 35, has been backed by the US and Western Europe in his drive to break with Yugoslavia's communist past and usher Western business and social reforms into Montenegro's economy and political structures.

His modernizing style and opportunism clash with Milosevic's determination to cement in place a state-dominated system that keeps intact his personal authority and one of the last unreformed socialist economies in Europe.

Insurer sued for not covering Viagra

NEW YORK (Reuters) — US insurer Oxford Health Plans Inc. has been sued by one of its policy holders for not paying out for his treatment with Pfizer Inc.'s impotence drug Viagra, the electronic version of *The Wall Street Journal* reported yesterday.

The paper said Paul Sibley-Schreiber said the insurer because "in effect Oxford is limiting my sex life." Sibley-Schreiber told the *Journal* that after having diabetes for 25 years, he has been impotent for five years and was greatly helped by the use of Viagra.

Lawyers representing Sibley-Schreiber said the suit, filed in the Eastern District of New York's federal court, may eventually be widened to include dozens of other insurance firms that have denied or restricted coverage of the drug.

Sibley-Schreiber's first prescription for 30 50mg tablets was covered by Oxford, the *Journal* said. However, when he went back to have a new prescription for 100mg pills, which worked better for him, Oxford wouldn't pay.

Sibley-Schreiber told the paper he had previously tried penile injections

and suppositories but nothing succeeded like Viagra, which he called a godsend. The lawsuit claims Oxford wrongly denied benefits for a prescription drug that is "medically necessary."

The *Journal* said the lawsuit is seeking both a prohibition of any further denials or restrictions of coverage and back compensation for Viagra prescriptions already paid out of pocket. The lawyers are seeking class-action status.

"It is putting up a barrier to my happiness," Sibley-Schreiber told the *Journal*.

Russia finalizes plans for czar's reburial

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV

MOSCOW (AP) — The government worked yesterday to finalize burial plans for Russia's last czar, while a small group of monarchists protested against what they said would be a "dubious ceremony."

The government has scheduled a burial ceremony for July 17, the 80th anniversary of Nicholas II's execution. It will take place at St.

Petersburg's Peter and Paul Cathedral, the traditional burial site of the Romanovs, who ruled Russia for 300 years.

But there are still differences between the government and the Russian Orthodox Church, and some private groups oppose the burial.

Various monarchist groups gathered throughout Moscow yesterday to mark the 130th anniversary of Nicholas II's birthday. Some criticized the burial plans and urged the

government to turn the remains over to the church, which is considering whether to make Nicholas II a saint.

"Instead of spending taxpayers' money on this dubious ceremony, they should put the remains to rest at a Yekaterinburg church where the czar prayed before his death," said Nikolai Lukyanov, the head of the All-Russia Monarchist Center and leader of a small group of picketers near government headquarters.

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STATE OF ISRAEL
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

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Dear Citizen,

1. In accordance with the Knesset Elections Law (Consolidated Version), 1969, and the Local Councils Law (Elections), 1965, the voters' roll has been drawn up and includes the name of every citizen and resident in a local authority whose 18th birthday falls no later than November 10, 1998.

**The Voters' Roll will be on display
from May 13, 1998 until May 22, 1998
at the Population Registry Offices**

2. If your name does not appear in the roll or if there is an error in the registration of your name or address, a complaint can be submitted at any of the Population Registry Offices until June 1, 1998.

3. Anyone who has submitted a complaint and has received no reply by June 25, 1998 or is dissatisfied with the reply received may submit an appeal until July 5, 1998 to any District Court. No court fees will be required.

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Registration in the voters' roll can be checked by telephone at any of the following numbers from May 13 to June 21 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

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02-6290241	03-9886196	06-6508542	07-6340661	08-8569771	08-9214713
02-6290244	03-9886482	07-6234115	07-6737612	08-8569772	08-8569770
03-9666350	03-6722107	07-6340665	07-6340663	08-8569773	09-7677265
03-5785682	06-6508515	07-6234198	07-6340662	08-9214711	09-7677255
03-5785690					

Information will not be given at these numbers at any other time.

The Ministry of the Interior - At Your Service

Will the Mormon church repudiate its 'racist legacy'?

By LARRY B. STAMMER

Twenty years after the Mormon church dropped its ban against blacks in the priesthood, key leaders are debating a proposal to repudiate historic church doctrines that were used to bolster claims of black inferiority.

The proposal to disavow the teachings, which purport to link black skin color to curses from God recounted in Hebrew and Mormon Scriptures, is under review by the church's Committee on Public Affairs, made up of members of the church's highest governing circles, known as general authorities.

Sources close to the sensitive and still-secret deliberations hope that a statement will be issued as early as next month, the 20th anniversary of the landmark 1978 decision by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to admit all worthy men to the priesthood, regardless of their race or color.

Although the church's leaders now proclaim racial equality as a "fundamental teaching," the process of repudiating old doctrines remains difficult. Those

involved in the internal discussions say church leaders are searching for a formula that will allow them to retract earlier statements without undermining the faith of believers or the credibility of previous church figures whom the Mormons revere as prophets whose pronouncements were inspired by God.

"They feel like a lot of people may not believe the church is true because a lot of these things were said by previous prophets, and a true prophet of God shouldn't make mistakes," said David Jackson, a black Mormon who is among those calling for change.

The call for change comes at a time when the 10 million-member church is enjoying unprecedented growth in Africa and other developing countries. Several months ago the church's president and prophet, Gordon B. Hinckley, wrapped up a five-nation tour of Africa, where the church reports an estimated 110,000 converts as of the end of 1997, the latest figures available.

But black members of the church in the United States as well as some Mormon scholars warn that the "racist legacy" con-

tinued in various Mormon documents and authoritative statements risks undermining its mission unless they are disavowed.

"In the absence of any official corrections, these speculative and pejorative ideas will continue to be perpetuated in the church indefinitely," Mormon scholar Armand L. Mauss wrote in one internal paper prepared for church officials. Mauss is president of the Mormon History Association and a professor of sociology and religious studies at Washington State University in Pullman, Wash.

For most white members, the place of blacks in the church was resolved once and for all by the church's landmark 1978 decision to open its priesthood to all worthy men regardless of their race or color.

For many blacks, however, the 1978 decision did not go far enough. "What (the 1978 revelation) doesn't say is we're no longer of the lineage of Cain, that we no longer did these things in pre-existence."

It does not say we are not cursed with black skin," Jackson said.

Irvine, Calif., attorney Dennis Gladwell, who has been working with Mauss and Jackson, made a similar point in a paper presented in October 1996 to Elder Marlin K. Jensen, a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy who also sits on the public affairs committee.

"It is the linkage to Cain that so distresses Mormon African Americans today," Gladwell wrote. "It places their spiritual lineage in shambles, since they are alleged descendants of a man who has come to symbolize evil on the same level as Lucifer (the devil) himself."

Although church officials would not comment directly on what Hinckley and his two counselors, or the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, may have considered, they confirmed that discussion of the issue is moving forward.

William S. Evans, a public affairs committee staffer, confirmed that the committee members have discussed the matter. But he cautioned that only the church's highest authorities — not the committee — could make such a statement.

An opening for the church

could come as early as next week when Mauss delivers what is described as a major paper on the subject in Washington, DC.

Among those who have read the paper is Jan Shipps, professor emerita of history and religious studies at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis. She said the paper makes the point that the church's racist legacy developed only after the death of its founder and prophet, Joseph Smith.

"So the church itself could pull back from it as a matter of reinterpretation without having to lay itself open to the charge of changing doctrine," said Shipps. In the past, Mormons as well as other churches believed that Africans were descendants of the biblical personages Cain and Ham, who, according to the Bible, displeased God and were cursed.

Hebrew Scripture says that Cain, the son of Adam and Eve, killed his brother, Abel. Ham was the second son of Noah, who built the Ark before the great flood recounted in the Bible. Ham broke a taboo by looking at his father's nude body after Noah passed out from drinking too

much wine. Over time, the curses on Ham and Cain came to be associated with black skin and were used as a justification for slavery — and, in the case of the Mormon church, one rationale for denying its priesthood to blacks.

For that reason, the 1978 revelation admitting blacks to the priesthood shocked the Mormon world, and was widely celebrated as a new time and a new dispensation bringing blacks into full fellowship in the church.

Typical of the remarks at the time were those of the late Apostle Bruce R. McConkie, who earlier had been a staunch defender of keeping blacks out of the priesthood as the will of God. "Forget everything that I have said, or what President Brigham Young or President George Q. Cannon or whosoever has said in days past that is contrary to the present revelation," McConkie said. "We spoke with a limited understanding, and without the light and knowledge that now has come into the world."

Despite such pronouncements, Mauss notes, pre-1978 statements continue to be circulated in conversations and classes at

the grass-roots level as well as reprinted in current authoritative books published by the church.

The early historical Mormon record is uneven, punctuated by contradictory statements and actions. For example, scholars note that a black man, Elijah Abel, was given the priesthood in the 1840s, and that the church's highest authority, the First Presidency, wrote in 1840 that "persons of all languages, and of every tongue, and of every color" would worship with other members in the temple.

But there is general agreement that after Smith's death, the church's views and practice changed under the leadership of Brigham Young.

As late as 1949, the church's First Presidency, the highest ruling authority, that includes the president and prophet and his two counselors, officially reaffirmed the ban on blacks in the priesthood by quoting Young as saying that those who were "cursed with a skin of blackness" were so marked because their fathers rejected the power of the holy priesthood and the law of God. (Los Angeles Times)

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Covering all his bases

By HELEN KAYE

Sunflowers, a Victorian mansion in Vermont, a passion for walking, skis and sunsets, imagination and an endless flow of recorded ideas — these are a few of the parts of which choreographer Moses Pendleton is the sum.

And it's no coincidence that he named his second dance company Momix, the name of a food supplement he fed to calves as a young Vermont farm boy.

"I'm actually more of a cowographer than a choreographer," he says from his Washington, Connecticut, home, explaining that he showed cows at county fairs and created happenings with them.

Back in the human dance world, Pendleton's first company was Pilobolus, which he founded with Jonathan Wolken at Dartmouth College in 1971. Momix came in 1984, the outgrowth of his touring duo of the same name after he separated from Pilobolus in 1980.

Both companies are coming to the Israel Festival. Pilobolus will perform an evening of repertory works in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv from June 3.

Momix is coming with *Baseball*, Pendleton's energy-charged romp on America's favorite sport, which opens for six performances at Gerard Behar in Jerusalem on Monday.

Pendleton isn't at all concerned that most Israeli audiences know about as much about baseball as they do about the British national sport, cricket.

"I've always been a rabid [Boston] Red Sox fan," he says. "I was brought up with baseball on radio. Baseball is a Momix show with the theme of baseball. That's why it works for audiences. Besides, baseball is an Olympic event these days, so people do know about it, and anyway, we take liberties."

That's true. The amazing Momix dancers — part human, part pretzel — take on baseball with the same

zest that characterizes all their shows. *Baseball*'s 17 irreverent, fast-paced scenes trace the development of the sport from a bunch of enterprising Neanderthals swinging stone clubs through to the present day with a beer-can ballet and oversize baseballs and catcher's mitts.

A Momix show, observes Pendleton, "uses the dynamics of MTV. It's fast moving, funny and surreal. The props we use are an extension of the body, like a third arm or an extra leg. It lets us create new patterns of motion and maybe emotions as well."

Pilobolus, he says, use their bodies as props. That's the main difference between the two companies. Pendleton says he hasn't choreographed for his former company for about seven years, but he keeps in touch through an occasional dinner with a Pilobolus friend.

Pendleton first came here with Pilobolus in 1973 a week before the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War. The company did a show for the Israeli Air Force in the Golan, dancing on solid rock, a feat which earned them an appreciative plaque from the squadron.

"We got on a plane for Rotterdam six hours before the war broke out," he says. "The next day we saw that about half the guys we'd been performing for had been killed in those first missions of the war."

That's when the man who'd been born Robert Pendleton took the name Moses, according to dance critic Giora Manor, who knows him well.

Growing up on the family farm "we'd play with and train the animals because there were no other kids to play with. At the shows I'd lead the cows in a zig-zag pattern or stampede them toward the audience only to have them stop at the last minute. It would amaze the audience, but it was quite simple. Cows are very curious creatures. I'd put on a white hood and the

cows would follow me. Then at the last minute, I'd dive into a ditch, the cows would lose interest and go back to grazing," he explains.

"Working on a farm is a very physical situation," says Pendleton of the pre-Pilobolus years, "and the background of athletics and sports gave me a third wind. You must not be afraid to be tired when you work with the body."

"Cowography" had to compete with a passion for skiing. He clipped on his first set of skis at age three and won the Vermont cross-country ski championship in his teens. Visions of becoming an Olympic downhill skier ended when he broke his leg. Rehabilitation included dance classes, "but I think I got into dancing because I got writer's cramp," he jokes.

He was an English major at Dartmouth but he never finished his thesis, leaving a box full of nutshells in its place because "my thesis was contained under so many nutshells."

Instead he and Wolken, inspired by such as Alwin Nikolais and Murray Lewis, began to create the sinuous and athletic choreographies for Pilobolus that inspired praise from influential dance critic Anna Kisselgoff, won first prize at the 1973 Edinburgh Festival and the Berlin Critics Prize in 1975.

In 1979 Pendleton undertook his first independent assignment, choreographing and performing in *Integrale Eric Satie* for the Paris Opera Ballet. A year later he choreographed the closing ceremonies of the Winter Olympics at Lake Placid, with Pilobolus as part of the presentation.

The world became and remains his stage. He has almost made a specialty of opera. One of his signature works is *Tutankhamun*, a work based on the writings of Antonin Artaud, which received its premiere at the Deutsches Oper in Berlin in 1982 and has been

revived several times since.

Working with opera "is just a different animal to observe," he says. "All have something they can do. I try to understand those abilities and integrate them into whatever dramatic presentation I'm involved in."

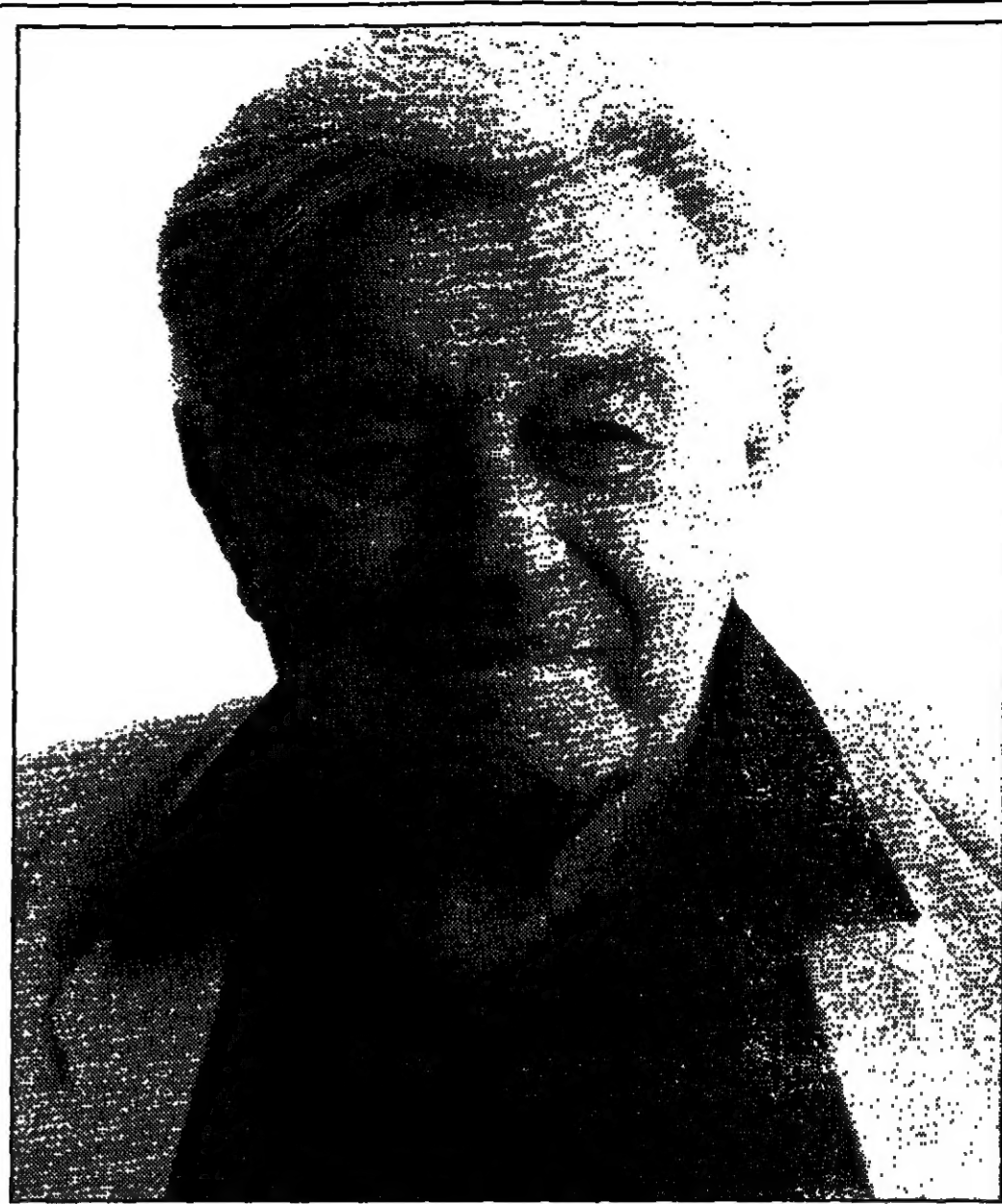
Tutankhamun has half-human, half-animal characters, and sunflowers are integral to the set. He has a commission with the Arizona Ballet to create a work based on a Hopi sunflower myth, and this August Italian TV will show a work starring sunflowers and dancers created in Pendleton's famous sunflower-shaped sunflower meadow at his Connecticut home. A troupe of Romanian gymnasts will also come to the sunflowers this summer to make *In Movimento*, a work about hair commissioned by Procter & Gamble.

"Humans need a certain amount of sunlight," he has said. "We're solar powered. I take in the energy from the afternoon sunsets...like a solar cell that gets charged."

This often happens on the porch that curves around the Victorian home he shares with dancer Cynthia Quinn and their daughter, Quinn Elizabeth. He was in rural Washington looking at an old carriage barn as the site for a future studio when he came upon the house. Every May he plants the sixteen-sided sunflower meadow which is part haven, part workshop, part source of inspiration.

Pendleton likes to involve his artists in creating whatever piece he's making, saying, "I don't have a vocabulary I instill. I try to find out what they have and work with it, like a sculptor freeing a form from the stone."

"He's an inspiration to have around in any context," former Momix dancer, choreographer Rebecca Stenn, has said. "Mo figures out what makes each person tick and then asks them to bring that quality to the forefront."



A portrait of Jerusalem's legendary former mayor, Teddy Kollek

(Brian Hendler)

Teddy Kollek — A love story

By BARRY DAVIS

The epithet "a legend in his own time" is an oft-used, oft-abused phrase bandied about with nonchalant abandon in respect to practically anyone who has chalked up anything of note — particularly if those deeds are accompanied by a generous amount of media exposure. But few would debate the usage of the grand appellation in the context of Mr. Jerusalem himself, Teddy Kollek.

Channel 8's profile of Kollek on Saturday night at 9 p.m. is, in itself, a love story.

Lovingly shot and edited by Benaya Bin-Nun and featuring an impressive cast of interviewees, including Kollek's son and daughter, Amos and Onat, it tells the tale of a charismatic leader and pragmatist.

It would be easier to draw up a list of things Teddy has not managed to bring off in almost nine decades of non-stop achievement.

As the program shows, his Zionist ideals took root in his native Vienna, where he preferred to huddle to gatherings of the movement's leadership rather than bury his busy head in his school books.

When he eventually arrived in this part of the world, he launched himself, physically and ideologically, into helping to build kibbutz Ein Gev on the banks of the Kinneret, alongside his wife of over 60 years, Tamar.

Archive footage of Kollek in those days always seems to feature his smiling bonhomie, larg-

er-than-life presence at the center of the action, be it putting up the first houses of a kibbutz or enjoying a game of soccer.

Most people have always thought of Kollek as the man behind the building of modern-day Jerusalem, the man who, naturally enough, was on hand when the Holy City was unified after the Six-Day War.

We are told that he was not overly enthused with the idea of becoming mayor but only consented to run for office at the behest of his mentor, David Ben-Gurion. "When the prime minister asks, I have always believed one should obey," says Kollek.

But he had already led a checkered career in wheeling and dealing for the good of the fledgling state, and the Jews, long before entering the carpeted corridors of power in Jerusalem.

Just one year after his arrival in the Middle East, Teddy was dispatched to England to prepare Jewish youth for aliyah. But he soon found himself helping to save the lives of Jews in Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia from the clutches of the Nazis, even meeting with Adolf Eichman in Vienna and convincing him to free thousands of Jewish children from concentration camps.

After World War II, Ben-Gurion asked Teddy to go to New York to help drum up diplomatic support for the founding of the State. In 1947, on the eve of the historic UN vote on the partition of Palestine between the Jews and the Arabs, we are told that wily Teddy even recruited the help of a hairdresser, whose

clientele included a number of ambassadors to the UN, and asked him to persuade his clients to vote for Israel while wielding a pair of scissors over their diplomatic crown.

His work abroad done, Teddy returned home and served as Ben-Gurion's right-hand man in the Prime Minister's Office before moving into the mayoral suite in Jerusalem.

But, despite his noted diplomatic skills, Teddy is a forthright man not afraid of speaking his mind in the most basic of language. His mayoral deputy of many years, Meir Benbenisti, tells us that Teddy's approach to the Arabs of East Jerusalem was akin to that of "a British colonial governor."

"He gave to them as a patron gives to his subjects but expected them to respond in kind." But, Benbenisti adds, Kollek has always been the supreme optimist. "People feel that, as long as Teddy's around, there's hope," he says.

Teddy Kollek is a charmer, a charismatic and temperamental man, and not one to mince his words. A man who, one snowy day in Jerusalem, rushed home to hurriedly dry his socks and boots in a toaster and a frying pan, respectively, so that he could venture out into the cold again to make sure another neighborhood in his beloved city had bread and milk.

At the age of 89, ensconced in his office at the Jerusalem Foundation, Teddy continues to work tirelessly for the good of the city which became his home and his life's work.

Laughing with tears in your eyes

By JOCELYN MOVECK

Making a movie about the Holocaust is delicate enough. Making one that is humorous, too? Some would call that crazy. Yet Italian comic star Roberto Benigni has attempted it, and his tale of a man trying wildly and creatively to shield his son from concentration camp horrors is the first unqualified hit at Cannes this year.

At its official premiere Sunday night, the film was hailed with a ten-minute standing ovation and shouts of "Bravo!" from the audience.

Many Holocaust films try to present the century's darkest moment in its full scope, to show the enormity of the event. It's easy to fall in

this venture, and Benigni doesn't even try.

Instead, *Life Is Beautiful* is simply about one man, one woman and one child. There are concentration camp scenes and references to gas chambers. But there are no big signs in German, barely a Nazi flag, hardly a swastika.

"We assume people already know about those things," says Benigni, who co-wrote, directed and starred in the film. Revered in Italy for his highly physical comedy, Benigni is best known abroad for manic performances in Jim Jarmusch's *Down by Law* and *Night on Earth*. He's been called Italy's Chaplin, but there's some Woody Allen there, too.

In the movie's funniest scene, Guido (Benigni) pretends he speaks German when

the Nazi guard asks for a translator to tell prisoners the camp rules. Each time the guard shouts out a rule, Guido comes up with his own hilarious translation, again shielding the boy from the Nazi cruelty.

As the horror grows, Guido's attempts to save his son become more desperate. The ending is not completely happy but definitely not completely sad, either.

Benigni says he knew he was taking risks in making the film, but "I was obsessed, in love with this idea. I was scared, but you're always scared when you're in love."

Life Is Beautiful has been a hit in Italy, where it has been playing since December. Miramax plans to distribute it in the United States. (AP)

Captivating Canadian violinists

Two of the more intriguing violinists of our age, young Canadian women, have come up with discs that if not wholeheartedly captivating are certainly engaging.

Chantal Juillet, who has made a name for herself as a performer of 20th-century music, has recorded delectable French music with the Montreal Symphony and Charles Dutoit (*Reverie et Caprice Violin Romances*, Decca 458 143-2). This is a very soothing, accompaniment and delightful disc featuring music by Ravel, Fauré, Lalo, Berlioz, Chausson and Ysaÿe — not always the most obvious choice from the repertoire of these

composers. The music flows naturally from Juillet's violin, which she plays with a charm, finesse and ease that engages you from beginning to end.

There are no musical masterpieces here, yet Juillet manages to present each short opus as if it were a masterpiece. The combination of Juillet's warmhearted violin playing and her poised playing with this melodic flow of French charm is winning. This disc brings us a match of beautiful music not often performed with even more beautiful

music-making. Leila Josefowicz is a younger violinist who tried to emerge as a poised young violinist whose major interest is the making music.

The cover of her new CD, *For the End of Time* (Philips 456 571-2), definitely suggests a new image. Josefowicz has always been a very intriguing violinist even if not yet a totally mature one in her overall playing.

Here she has a rather strange combination of violin sonatas ranging from Messiaen and

Barok to Grieg and De Falla.

For originality of programming she gets full marks, and for the committed and at times inspired delivery, she also should be commended. Instead of opting for something to soothe the listeners, as does Juillet, Josefowicz goes to challenge. She is at her best in the gutsy De Falla and in the melodic Grieg, yet she still has to master the more contemporary pieces to perfection.

But the disc on the whole suggests that here is a violinist on the right way to challenging the conventional repertoire and maybe even the conventional look one is used to associating with her.

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Knesset avarice

Former Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev once said, "Politicians are the same all over — they promise to build bridges, even where there are no rivers." We can all laugh at what politicians will do to get elected, and wink as they steer government funds to their own constituencies. But the cynicism of politics goes too far when Knesset members use their power for direct personal interest, even if they do so by legal means.

Less than two years ago, MKs unanimously voted themselves a 33 percent pay raise, in exchange for cutting their pensions and prohibiting outside employment. The law, which was based upon the recommendations of a committee headed by the late Prof. Ariel Rosen-Zvi, was supposed to end the practice of MKs who spent much time on outside activities. The legislation also prohibited MKs from serving as mayors and other elected positions. MKs who were already mayors when the legislation passed, such as Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert (Likud) and Omer Yosef Pini Badash (Tsimet), were allowed to remain in both posts until the next elections.

With municipal elections approaching, mayor and MK Badash and others are pushing to change the law back so they can serve in both posts. The mayor/MKs argue that the new law, by forcing a choice between offices, reduces their contact with and ability to serve the public. Despite the inability of such politicians to contain their desire to serve, the attempt to combine local and national office seems more in the politicians' interest than the public's.

In the United States and Britain, it would be unthinkable for a mayor to simultaneously serve in Congress or Parliament — no politician would dare approach the voters with such a proposition. Even in Israel, Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo kept a campaign promise to drop his Knesset seat if elected, knowing that the voters expect the occupant of city hall to devote a full-time effort to the task. Even if voters do not like what their representatives are doing, they have a right to expect that at least their loyalties are not diluted by combining local and national office. The mayor/MKs who argue otherwise at least have a semblance of public-spirited reasoning to make their case.

Those who are seeking to unravel another part of the pay-raise deal — the reduction in pensions — do not even have a flimsy leg to stand on. Under the new law, the pension for MKs was reduced from 4 percent per year of

service to 2 percent — the amount more common in labor agreements. Using the 2 percent system, it takes an employee 35 years to reach the maximum pension of 70 percent of salary upon retirement. According to the old law, an MK, by contrast, would reach the same level in half the time, and would not have to wait until age 65 for the payments to begin, like most employees.

As is usual in such shenanigans, no MK will admit to backing the proposal to restore the old exorbitant pension plan — while keeping the pay increase as well. MK Ra'anana Cohen, who reportedly supports the increase, denies involvement. Pay increases, like defeats, are orphans.

But just as the proposals for a sweeping jubilee amnesty for criminals began anonymously and eventually found willing advocates, Knesset avarice could overcome fear of public wrath. It is at times like this when the lack of a more direct accountability between the Knesset and the public is most sorely felt. Though debate is growing over whether to overturn the law establishing the direct election of the prime minister, what is missing is a push for the direct election of Knesset members. Advocates of the direct election law originally envisioned that it would include such a provision, which would tie MKs more closely to the people, for better or for worse.

Direct election of at least some MKs would make them more susceptible to populist pressures, but sometimes that is exactly what is necessary. Without direct elections to the Knesset, no one has a single representative they can call "their" MK, to whom they can appeal when facing the vast maze of bureaucracy and the whims of government policy. Even when parliamentarians are directly elected, such as in the US Congress, politicians can find ways to feather their own beds. But it is hard to get around the conflict of interest inherent in legislators deciding their own salaries, as part of their responsibility for the budget in general.

Members of Congress are called "Representatives" for a reason — they are beholden to a geographically defined group of voters, rather than the more amorphous group of voters of a particular party. This tighter link between voter and politician may result in more bridges over non-existent rivers, but it makes it harder to take self-interested decisions that are wildly unpopular, and amount to a legal form of corruption.

MIRIAM ROYENBERG



Keys of no confidence

The five-year transition period laid down in the Oslo Agreement was intended to allow for confidence-building measures between the two nations. But the conflicts we have witnessed recently between the Palestinian Authority and Israel have actually created "no-confidence building measures" that have hindered and even prevented direct Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

Without direct negotiations, the two sides needed an American mediator, who arbitrarily decided on a 13% withdrawal, and focused all the negotiations on the percentage of territory from which Israel was to redeploy.

Although the weekend G-8 summit praised the US for its "creative and realistic proposals" in mediation between Israel and the Palestinians, the administration in fact acted like a bull in a china shop. The mediation perpetuated the atmosphere of mutual no confidence between us and the Palestinians.

In diplomacy, some prefer "constructive ambiguity." Ambiguity allows clauses to be formulated when total agreement is impossible. But this ambiguity doesn't solve problems, and doesn't assist in confidence building.

When, in the middle of negotiations on possible methods for changing the Palestinian covenant, violent demonstrations mark the anniversary of al-Nakba, (the Palestinian commemoration of the birth of Israel as their national catastrophe), it is hard for Israeli negotiators to turn a blind eye and not see the demonstrations as the other side of the Palestinian covenant.

It is hard for them to ignore the suspicion that Palestinian youths, brought up in the belief that the establishment of Israel was a catastrophe for the Palestinian people, will eventually, after the five-year transition period, try to resume the armed struggle.

The negotiators on IDF redeployment in Judea and Samaria can't rely on their dreams and hopes of coexistence with the

MOSHE ZAK

Palestinians. The violent al-Nakba demonstrations perpetuates the animosity and requires us to look for more "safety belts" in case the future doesn't follow the lines of the awaited peace, but carries on in the spirit of statements made during "Catastrophe Day."

THE keys carried by the Palestinian marchers in the Nakba demonstra-

The 'Nakba' demonstrations create suspicion as to Palestinian intentions

tions cannot be seen by Israelis as confidence-building measures. They were meant to symbolize the Palestinian demand to return to the homes we seized in 1948, when the Arab forces were defeated.

But the residents of Jerusalem's Katamon area and Jaffa's Abu Kabir, and the Jews of Lod and Ramle don't have anything to worry about. The key-holders won't come back, just as no one imagines that the buildings of Tel Aviv University will be pulled down so we can return the land to the Arabs of Sheikh Munis. It isn't going to happen.

What is happening is that the Palestinians are fostering in the "post-Oslo" generation the will to return to the situation before May 15, 1948. They are sowing the seeds of the next violent struggle.

Israel's demand for a radical change in the Palestinian covenant as a condition of further IDF withdrawals is no mere caprice. It is an essential demand for the uprooting of the revanchist foundations of Palestinian society, that still dream of turning the clock back to the time when they were the majority.

At the time of writing, the content of the "memo of understanding" between Israel and the US,

intended to ease agreement on a 13% withdrawal, is still unclear. This is not a new kind of solution. A similar memo of understanding was signed between Israel and the US in order to ensure Israel's participation in the 1973 Geneva conference. A memo of understanding between Israel and the US was attached to the Sinai agreement in 1975, and was signed by the foreign ministers of Israel and the US on the same day as the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.

These different memos were all intended to strengthen Israel's political position and increase its security, so that it would assume greater risks. Their full details will become known only in the future, but they can't give a final answer to our hesitations.

For example, if we agree to a 13% withdrawal, with or without a third stage, the question remains where to make the withdrawal. In the Judean desert, which is almost unpopulated but has strategic importance in terms of the connection to the Jordan valley, or in Samaria, with its dense Palestinian population?

A massive withdrawal in Samaria will bring Palestinian rule to the boundary fences of some settlements and to the gates of Israeli early warning stations. It will be a challenging task for the IDF and will make life harder for the settlers. Most serious of all, it contains the fuse of a crisis leading to the next explosion.

The proposal of leaving 4% out of the 13% in American hands, which theoretically will ensure the security of the isolated settlements in Judea and Samaria, has also not been thought through. If agreed, it will require American soldiers to be stationed in Judea and Samaria. No one has examined the far-reaching implications of this new trend.

It is the question of percentages that has attracted world attention. It is still not the most important question in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It can do nothing to further peace. Peace cannot be achieved by no-confidence building measures.

Confine to oblivion

DAVID NEWMAN

Vanunu supporters see their hero as having exposed the secrecy which envelopes Israel's nuclear capacity, bringing it to world attention and concern, while Pollard was no more than a cheap spy who was paid by the Israeli government for the transfer of classified information.

It is no longer in the interests of Israel or the US to keep either Pollard or Vanunu behind bars

While Pollard is seen by the American public as displaying dual loyalties and having betrayed the country in which he was born and lived, so too Vanunu is seen by most Israelis as having betrayed, and endangered, his country of birth.

What probably rankles even more with the Israeli public is the fact of Vanunu's public conversion to Christianity, his rejection of Judaism and, by extension, the Jewish state.

In both cases, the US and Israeli governments continue to argue against their respective release on the grounds that each man still holds knowledge of classified information harmful to the country's interests. Given the rapid growth of military and nuclear technology during the past decade, this is hard to believe. Rather, it would appear to be, in both cases, a desire to punish these men to the limit, perhaps as a clear warning to others who may be persuaded to take a similar course.

It is also possible that the

increased attention being given to Vanunu throughout the world, has forced Israel to take action in the case of Pollard. The longer Pollard remains in prison, the greater the likelihood a linkage will be made between the two cases, and that the release of one will be dependent on the release of the other. That is the last thing an Israeli government would want.

WHAT appears to be increasingly clear is that neither country has much to gain from continuing to imprison either Pollard or Vanunu. Their continued incarceration is nothing but a source of embarrassment to each country. At first, anti-nuclear campaigners around the world will celebrate Vanunu's release and use it as a means of highlighting Israel's nuclear capacity. Many Israelis will equally rejoice at Pollard's release, presenting him as one more in a long line of "patriotic" Jews who suffered for their devotion to their people.

Neither of these men deserve the celebrations they will receive. Each of them received payment for the transfer, or publicity, of secret information concerning their native countries which, to the best of our knowledge, they had no reason to betray. But, at the same time, neither Israel nor the US has anything to gain by continuing to keep them in prison and, as such, the subject of public attention.

It is time for both governments to find a way out of this predicament. Neither Pollard or Vanunu constitute a threat to their countries any longer and they are simply not worth the public attention they are receiving. Better to release them and let them sink into the oblivion that they truly deserve.

India, Israel

WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY JR.

Alexander Chancellor, the British journalist, has collected for Slate Enterprises, journalistic reaction to recent events. The French press was "indecently jubilant" in its response to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's rebuff to President Clinton in the Middle East negotiations. Here is some of the festoonery of that jubilation.

From the liberal *Liberation*, front page: The word "humiliates" appears in red. The headline on page 2 was: "Netanyahu: The offense done to Bill Clinton."

The (relatively) conservative Paris paper *Le Figaro* headlined, "Netanyahu defies Clinton." Its editorial was titled, "American powerlessness."

It spoke of the difficulty of quarreling with Israel a mere six months before a national election, but spoke also of another factor:

"Politically weakened by the interminable inquiry into his escapades, Bill Clinton cannot permit himself to open a new front," it wrote. One wonders if the editorial writer pondered whether that sentence should read, "Politically weakened by the inquiry into his interminable escapades, Bill Clinton cannot permit himself to open a new front."

People still insist that Flowers-Jones-Lewinsky-Wiley et al have no bearing on the performance of the president's duties.

And of course that was also the week in which India tested its nuclear capacities. Clinton spoke out immediately. This time around, he has the advantage in threatening sanctions: Some of these are specified under the law. Granted, that was also the case in the matter of human rights in China.

Clinton — remember? — chastised president Bush for being too sleepy on the matter of human rights and promised that he would invoke sanctions if the relevant State Department committee reported no progress during the preceding year.

The committee reported no progress in 1992-93, but Clinton waived sanctions. As he did the following year, and the year after that — and eventually opinion consolidated on the proposition that

Look who's making short out there of the failure of US foreign policy

to suspend trade with China in fact wouldn't much help the cause of human rights there.

Now the president is being counseled on the matter of the effect of these proposed sanctions on India.

WE don't give any economic aid to India that amounts to anything (unlike Israel, which heavily relies on such aid). But the law lists other sanctions, including a freeze on any bank loan to the Indian government. Such a freeze, if heavily enforced, could cause problems, forecasters say. But what can't happen is any retroactive nuclear untesting.

It isn't as if India had seized a hostage and, after contemplating threatened sanctions, gave up the hostage. India has made its point, and China and Pakistan heard the explosion very distinctly.

New Delhi came on then with pacific noises, to the effect that it had no intention of building nuclear weapons. And there is even a whisper that India might proceed to sign the non-proliferation treaty.

The point is of course that India has acted out its defiance and, by the way, the new government is deliciously received by the Indian people.

They tend to do that kind of thing.

Now Netanyahu by no means represents all the people of Israel — far from it. The country is deeply divided. The Jewish-Israeli journalist Arrigo Levi, whose opinions carry weight, thoroughly explored the Israeli scene and concluded in the *Slate* survey that "the loss of all hope by Arafat and the Palestinians could lead to a new 'catastrophic' war in which biological and chemical weapons might be used."

So Clinton's stand against Netanyahu cannot be said to be a stand "against" Israel.

In India, the people are exultant because of a display of technological prowess; but they also take that pleasure (which is near universal) of thumbing one's nose at the superpower.

The future of Israel can be said to be in US hands, but the government of Israel is not America's to decide. Yet the policies of that government should reflect common objectives.

The strategic balance of power in Asia isn't ours to decide, but a superpower should be able to draw strategic satisfactions from the brawn that tempts so many to arrogant exhibitions of independence. It matters a great deal that they are making sport out there of the failure of US foreign policy.

(Universal Press Syndicate)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NO DISCRIMINATION

Sir, — Justin Danilewitz last month launched an attack on our newspaper, "Jewish student accuses Harvard newspaper of bias" (April 19), claiming that he was not selected to be editorial chair because he was not the kind of Jew the *Crimson* was looking for — namely, one willing to turn his back on other Jews.

He claims that we are, however, and that while in office we have instituted a "new policy" at the *Crimson*, "a program designed to promote the most superficial kind of diversity — the diversity of skin color." He alleges that this policy cost him a position as columnist.

Danilewitz is dealing in fictions. No such antisemitic policy or program exists at the *Crimson*, nor have we ever wished for one. In selecting among the 43 applicants for the position of bi-weekly columnist, we sought responsible students whose work would engage our diverse readership and challenge them to consider new ideas and new perspectives.

There were simply more qualified candidates than Mr. Danilewitz — including the co-chair of Harvard Students for Israel and another active member of Harvard-Radcliffe Hillel. We did not employ quotas in our selection of columnists, and we did not reject anyone because of his or her race, religion or gender.

In fact, we increased the total number of columnists from 10 to 17, with the number of Jewish columnists rising from eight to 10 this semester. Moreover, despite

Danilewitz's absence, 80 percent of current *Crimson* editorial board executives are Jewish — no fewer than last year.

It is true, as Danilewitz points out, that we dismissed one conservative Jewish columnist. But this student's dismissal had nothing to do with either his religion or his political views; he was let go because, having written for two years, he was no longer offering our readers a fresh perspective.

On one point, Danilewitz is correct. Both of us have a strong commitment to diversifying the *Crimson's* editorial page. As Danilewitz noted, we pointed in our position papers to the fact that 80 percent of the columnists last year were Jewish as evidence that the *Crimson's* editorial page did not adequately reflect the diversity of opinion on campus. But Danilewitz fails to mention that we also pointed to the fact that the number of columnists who were female, non-white or science majors was too low.

Our interest is not in excluding anyone, but in including as many different perspectives as we can. We disagree with Mr. Danilewitz's assumption that this effort makes us bad Jews. In fact, we believe Judaism is commensurate with the values of inclusion, expression and understanding which we hold dear.

DANIEL M. SULEIMAN,
Editorial Chair
GEOFFREY C. UPTON,
Editorial Chair

Cambridge, Massachusetts

SNIPING AT SHINUI

Sir, — Sarah Honig's report of Ronni Milo's search for suitable partners "Milo woos Meridor" (May 6), concludes with a paragraph sniping at Avraham Poraz MK and Shinui.

In Shinui, the overwhelming majority refused to "consummate the marriage" with Meretz (I know — I was one of the majority who made the decision in Shinui's National Council) and it was the minority, unfortunately headed by Amnon Rubinstein, which decided to see it through. They did so as individuals, not as the Shinui party.

I've checked several dictionaries, and they all describe the splinter as being the small piece that breaks off the main body — not the other way round.

Shinui is alive and well and working hard to recover from the traumatic experience we endured during our "engagement" with Meretz when we were labeled as extremist and leftist.

It is also true that we need other allies in the center, so it was natural that the Shinui chairman, Avraham Poraz, had a meeting with Ronni Milo. We have a lot of centrist ideas in common and these were clarified in an atmosphere of equality and cooperation — not begging or subservience.

From the literary viewpoint, Sarah Honig's final paragraph topped off her article nicely, but from the viewpoint of accurate journalism, it leaves a lot to be desired.

CHANA STERNER

Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On May 20, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported in detail how the battle-hardened Palmah soldiers stormed the Zion Gate, bringing food and reinforcements to the hard-pressed 1,500 residents of the Jewish Quarter. Hadassah Hospital, Mount Scopus was under heavy shelling from Arab Legion guns.

although the Red Shield flag flew over the building.

At the UN, Great Britain tried to water down the US cease-fire call. In London, Mr. Ernest Bevin complained that the recognition of Israel by US and Russia was an unprecedented blunder in diplomatic history and that Britain would not recognize the new state unless it had

clearly defined borders.

25 years ago: On May 20, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported the death of Abraham Shlonsky, one of the most cherished Israeli poets. Known as a brilliant rebel of Hebrew literature and Israeli prize laureate for 1967.

Alexander Zvielli

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Sex therapy – almost like a trip to the dentist

The last 15 years have seen important changes in the way Israelis experiencing sexual difficulties seek help. But the biggest change, Allison Kaplan Sommer finds out, has been the elimination of the stigma

In Israel, some sex counselors discreetly call themselves "family therapists." Others, like Yissachar Rotay, proudly display the title "Sexologist" on their door.

"When people meet me at a party or on the street and ask me what I do, and I tell them I am a sexologist, they look at me as if I were some kind of magician. But what I do is not magic," Rotay says. "I'm more like a technician. I teach people very simple techniques."

In Rotay's view, the key to any successful relationship is "the patience and ability to cope with areas in which you are incompatible. If you have that, you have everything." For someone who calls himself a "sexologist," Rotay's view of love is surprisingly traditional and non-racy.

"People so often get married for the unimportant reasons, if a young couple come in and tell me they are getting married because they are attracted to each other, I worry."

"Not that I have anything against it – but it's not enough. A couple have to be able to create intimacy, communication and friendship. Otherwise it all falls apart, including the sex."

Rotay has two art posters hanging on either side of his desk in the office where he counsels couples struggling with issues of sex and love. To the left is a work by the surrealist Salvador Dalí: A naked woman lies prostrate, suspended in space, as two ravenous tigers with bared teeth prepare to pounce.

On the right is a classic work by Chagall. In it, a man tenderly and protectively enfolds a woman in his arms.

Rotay uses these two pictures of passion and intimacy to illustrate the duality of man-woman relationships and their difficulties.

In his view, couples counseling is a chicken-and-egg situation, since problems with relationships cause difficulties in sex, while a problematic sex life – the loss of desire or the physical inability of one of the partners, male or female, to engage in healthy rela-

tions – takes a toll on their emotional relationship. The question is where to begin.

Rotay, a former teacher, freely admits that his personal life experiences helped draw him to the profession.

When he was first married, he notes, Israelis in troubled marriages like his rarely delved into their difficulties. Seeking therapy carried a social stigma, and counseling that focused on sex lives was simply unavailable.

Generally couples either suffered in unhappy relationships, maintained affairs on the side, or got divorced.

Rotay himself divorced 25 years ago. He is convinced that "if I had known back then what I know now, I would still be married to my first wife."

"Clients would sneak in the back door, dressed so people wouldn't recognize them. Now I get recommendations, like a good restaurant"

sexologist Ruti Hochner

The turning point in sex therapy here came in 1973, when Dr. Ami Shaked, fresh from studies in the US, opened Israel's first sex clinic at Tel Hashomer Hospital and began openly to explore sexual problems for the first time.

Ruti Hochner, a Herzliya sexologist who holds a masters in Human Sexuality and Family Education from New York University and apprenticed with Shaked at Tel Hashomer hospital, recalls the opening of the clinic. "It was like admitting that sex existed for the first time."

Over the past 15 years, during

which she has been assisting couples in preserving their relationships, Hochner has observed several changes.

"First of all, the age people are coming in to see me is getting younger and younger. Once, nearly all the people who walked in the door came after the wounds were all inflicted. They came when the marriage was bad, usually in crisis. Now I'd say a third to half are younger, coming earlier in the relationship, even before marriage, when there are just the first signs of problems. They want to see if they can work them out. If they cannot, they may decide not to get married."

"Once," Hochner continues, "people came if they weren't able to have proper standard sex; now they come to improve sex, to make it more satisfying. Once, more women came to me; now men are coming. But I would say that the biggest change over the years has been the elimination of the stigma."

"Clients used to be very ashamed to be coming to me. They would sneak in the back door, dressed so people wouldn't recognize them. Now it's all out in the open. People send their friends to me. I get recommendations," she smiles, "like a good dentist, or a good restaurant." Hochner admits, however, to an occasional moment of discomfort when she tells new acquaintances what she does for a living.

"People still have the feeling that if you are a sex therapist you can see through them – that somehow I can meet them and immediately know the size of their equipment, and what they do in bed."

ALL THE therapists interviewed – whether their formal background is in psychology, social work, or, whether, like Rotay, they are self-trained – agreed that sexual and emotional issues are inextricably intertwined.

A spouse whose partner is not interested in sex often feels unloved, while a spouse who is continuously angry over his or her mate's behavior in other areas of life often finds it difficult to muster any sexual feeling.

Michael Yarosky holds a masters degree in clinical social work and has been a therapist since 1966. He moved his practice from Canada to Israel in 1983. Yarosky feels so strongly about this intertwining of sex and emotion that he rejects the title "sexologist."

"I associate the term with a school of thought in which it is possible to do sex therapy without doing relationship therapy. This in my view is mechanical, robotic, and can be counterproductive if not downright destructive," he says.

"If, for example, a man is having trouble getting an erection, more often than not it is a sign of something very healthy: his sexual organs are sending a message that there are problems in the relationship."

However, Yarosky doesn't completely shun medical solutions. He believes that the new, much-hyped pill Viagra "will be a real blessing for the right people. But my suspicion is that it will soon become clear that this pill cannot fix bad relationships."

Yarosky dismisses the long-term effectiveness of the clinics that advertise extensively in the media promising immediate relief to men suffering from impotence and relying mostly on injection therapy.

"Personally, I wouldn't like a needle stuck into my penis in order to achieve a half-hour erection, and I don't think it is worth it," he says.

He agrees with Hochner that "Israelis are significantly more ready to present themselves for relationship therapy."

"Every day I feel that there is less of a stigma. This has a lot to do with the Westernization of Israel, but also with increased affluence. I would say family therapy, sex issues, personal issues tend to be discussed with people from a middle-class background."

"I find that the defining characteristic of someone who seeks this kind of help is economic, not ethnic. One would think that Western Europeans and 'Anglo-Saxons' would be most willing to discuss their problems – but I'm finding that when people achieve a certain economic status, they are ready for these concepts, whether they are Ashkenazi or Sephardi."

CHOOSING a therapist is a delicate business. The therapists interviewed all feel that the best way is through personal referrals, but for those who have no personal recommendation to follow up, the Israeli Association of Sex Therapists and Certified Family Therapists will help. Some, like Yarosky, specialize in a particular



When intimacy, communication and friendship are lacking, "it all falls apart, including the sex."

(David Brauner)

area; he focuses on intercultural relationships, and counsels many Israelis married to foreigners.

Many therapists say that, too shy to seek referrals, their clients simply find them through the telephone directory.

Rotay says he has had several clients from the Orthodox and even haredi sectors, most of whom found their way to his door via the Yellow Pages.

"The extremely Orthodox marry so young and know so little about sex when they marry," he says. "When they run into difficulties they have nowhere in their community to turn, so they seek outside help."

In today's era of openness, many therapists are almost celebrities, authoring advice columns in popular magazines, working the lecture circuit and appearing regularly on television to supplement and enhance their counseling business.

Rotay, who is something of a showman by nature, has developed a unique presentation together with his live-in partner, singer Zehava Gutman, which combines information and entertainment.

In his show he preaches the various points of his philosophy: the difference between loving some-

one (selfless) and being in love (selfish), the Venus-Mars type differences between men and women – women are moodier and men more consistent; a man can be angry at his partner and still want sex, a woman often cannot get turned on without an emotional element; how angry men tend to become repressed emotionally, and angry women repressed sexually.

He offers tips on how to break down these boundaries. "I tell men that warm words can create warmth in their partner. If you speak and behave lovingly, you will get a response and feel more loving in turn."

But Rotay, like his colleagues, says he gets the most satisfaction from treating clients, helping them lead happier lives.

"The problems are not so varied," says Hochner. "How many positions are there in sex? Well, there are a limited number of problems as well. But sex is never just about sex," she notes. "It is about how you feel about man/woman relationships."

"For me, treating people is like trying to solve a puzzle. It is a journey you take with someone. You are never quite sure where it will lead you. That can never be boring."

Can I help you, sir...?

If it has taken decades for sex therapy to become respectable among the Israeli public, the use of sexual surrogates has still to become respectable among therapists themselves.

For the year-and-a-half she has been operating a clinic called Results in Bnei Brak, Malka Silverman has slowly built up her business on referrals from professionals who approve of the technique of having trained women therapists physically guide men who are suffering from sexual dysfunction.

"Sex surrogacy is not to be dismissed," says therapist Michael Yarosky, who refers clients to surrogates when necessary. "I think there is a lot of room for it – but it has to be done under careful supervision, with proven professional sources. Under these conditions, I would say it is helpful and beautiful."

Silverman is hopeful a growing number of therapists in Israel will develop this attitude; she currently works with nine psychologists and sexologists.

She got into the business after returning from gender studies in the US. "I was teaching and looking for something to do, and noticed an advertisement for a course in surrogate therapy. I took the course and immediately opened the center."

Silverman's surrogates work with men who have trouble achieving erections, or suffer from premature ejaculation. They also work with many virgins.

"Right now we have a client who is a virgin, with homosexual tendencies. Since he wants to get married and have children, he has come to us to experience sex with a woman for the first time."

Before a client actually meets with a surrogate, Silverman interviews him and provides him with informational materials. Sometimes, she says, simply walking in the door of her clinic and admitting that he has a sexual problem is the most significant step a client needs to take.

"Many people come and think they want a surrogate, but end up looking at our books or seeing films and decide that they can do certain exercises themselves, then with their partners – for example, to prevent premature ejaculation. They learn by themselves, and then go to their wives and girlfriends."

Silverman says misperceptions of surrogate therapy are frequent, adding that those who believe it is a high-class form of prostitution have it completely wrong.

"People don't realize that in the vast majority

of surrogacy cases no actual sexual intercourse occurs. Most of it is talking and touching, and helping very shy and inhibited people relax."

Sometimes Silverman ends up referring clients back to psychologists.

"We had a man who went bankrupt several years ago; after that his sexual functioning disappeared. It became clear that his problems were not rooted in sex; what he needed was psychotherapy." Silverman's clinic does not provide male surrogates for women or homosexual surrogates of either sex, but she is in the process of developing a class for women "to teach them to enjoy their sexuality."

Her biggest challenge is recruiting staff for a job that is often not socially acceptable.

"Finding workers is the hardest part. It is

"There is no way I would do something like this only for the money. I truly love to help people – it's like a disease. But it takes time, and work"

Yael, a sexual surrogate

very, very difficult," she says. "Part of the reason I am willing to be interviewed is that it sometimes brings me job applicants."

"Women have to understand that the job may have the image of prostitution, but that in reality it is more like being a nurse or a social worker. Luckily, once I find someone interested and willing, they usually turn out to be very good."

"My best surrogate is 30 years old. She's experienced, perceptive and smart." The cost of surrogacy sessions ranges between \$100-\$200.

Yael, 45, sees her work as a surrogate at Results as an extension of what she has been doing for the past decade in holistic treatment and massage. She has no formal training, but for the eight months she has worked at Silverman's clinic she has gotten extensive instruction from Silverman herself.

"There is no way I would do something like this only for the money," she said. "I truly

love to help people; it's like a disease. And I really feel I am helping these men."

Most of them, she says, are "extremely nervous" when they come to see her in her apartment.

She always begins by talking to them at length, before any physical contact is made.

"I always sit and talk first. A man came to see me last week, and I felt our session was a real success. We spoke, then I suggested giving him a massage. We did some breathing exercises and some 'guided imagination' exercises – talking about fantasies, mine and his."

And this man – who hasn't been able to have sex for a very long time – was able to extricate himself from his present reality and perform. He was in shock – and very happy."

Not all sessions are so successful, however. "My biggest disappointments are with clients who simply don't have the patience. They think I can wave a magic wand and, presto, they will have the urge to have sex."

"It takes time, and it takes work. They have to do their homework. I give them lots of suggestions to help them revive and renew their relationships with their partners. A lot of the time they are simply bored, and don't have enough imagination to get out of the rut."

Yael is "extremely discreet" about her work as a surrogate; Even the name she used for this interview is a pseudonym.

"I am divorced, I live alone, and I don't tell anybody about this work – not friends, not family. I feel that what I do is a sacred trust between myself and my clients; they are looking for the maximum amount of anonymity, which I feel I should give them."

Yael says she has never felt threatened by any of her clients. "The dynamic is not one in which they walk in my door and expect to jump into bed with me and have sex. I control the process and decide how far things need to go."

"Maybe I have more luck than sense, but there have never been any problems with clients. Malka interviews and screens them extensively before they come here, and I have a lot of faith in her."

Yael plans to continue with her surrogate work in addition to her other work in holistic treatment and massage.

"I love my work," she says, "all aspects of it. I have been treating people for 10 years, and every day feels like the first."

"I know myself: there is no way I could be a clerk in a bank, working from nine to five."

-A.K.S

'I hear what you're saying'

By MARY JO KOCHAKIAN

Anyone who has ever been in couples therapy has had to struggle to relearn the basics of speech. Or should have.

There are pillars of faith in therapy. Among them are teaching the techniques of "I statements" and "active listening."

Let's consider the "I statement." Clients learn how to express dissatisfaction in neutral terms, sentences starting with "I," rather than condemnatory tirades starting with "you."

Correct: "I'm very upset that you sent Donny to school in Daria's clothes."

Incorrect: "You're such an idiot. What a pathetic father you are! You can't even figure out that if it's a pink shirt with dots on it, it's going to make Donny a walking target for those pre-K boys."

Correct: "I get upset when I see you eating an entire cheese-cake. I'm afraid it's going to affect our sex life."

Incorrect: "Like what do I have to look forward to? Sleeping next to 300 pounds of lard?"

This is obviously a valuable tool. No problem there, if you can actually pull it off in the heat of the moment.

Recent research by psychologist John Gottman, though, questions "active listening."

The technique, a staple of therapy, works like this: A couple has a problem. Spouse No. 1 says her piece. Spouse No. 2 listens. Spouse No. 2 then paraphrases: "So you feel that I'm really not setting such a good example for the kids when I consume a 12-pack?" Spouse No. 1 says yea or nay, and then it's Spouse No. 2's turn to talk.

Gottman, professor of psychology at the University of Washington, is lead author of the article in the *Journal of Marriage and the Family*.

Researchers studied 130 newlywed couples, followed for six years, to see what kind of interactions predict divorce or stability, and being happily or unhappily married. (Gottman has a high-magnification lab, the subjects were tech laboratory, the subjects were videotaped by two cameras, and a videotaped image was created. Split-screen recorded the couple's speech. A computer "synthesized" physiological data with

video data," and more.)

The findings: The active listening taught in therapy "may be expecting a form of emotional gymnastics from people who, at that moment, in that relationship, are somewhat emotionally disabled by conflict. We found that even couples in stable, happy marriages do not do this active listening naturally."

Teaching it may be misguided. Rather, the research suggests, there are ways to defuse trouble that have everything to do with being a man, or with being a woman. The roles are different.

The only newlywed men who wound up in happy and solid marriages were those who were "accepting of influence from their wives. Getting a husband to share power with his wife, by accepting some of the demands she makes," Gottman says, "is critical in helping to resolve conflict."

As for women, it seems essential to "soften" the start of conflicts. "The way the interactions start may be critical in determining the couple's fate."

Because of physiology, men react more acutely than women to conflict, Gottman notes. Men are more likely to withdraw when trouble starts.

"Only women who are able to soften their start-up of conflict wind up in happy and stable marriages," the article says.

Which brings us to another finding: "The four horsemen of the apocalypse." Anger itself doesn't threaten a marriage. Rather, the four factors that predict divorce are criticism, defensiveness, contempt and "stonewalling" (withdrawal).

In this particular study, researchers predicted the newlywed couples' divorce or stability with 83 percent accuracy, according to what they found in the way couples reacted to conflict. Satisfaction in the marriage was predicted with 80 percent accuracy.

Gentleness, compassion and "physiological soothing" – cooling down – are reasons marriages succeed. (For more on this, see Gottman's *Why Marriages Succeed or Fail*.) Emphasizing those qualities may be more useful than teaching active listening, Gottman concludes.

(The Hartford Courant)

Corner

By Batsheva Mink
and David Brauner

In Victorian times, the aspidistra was nicknamed the "cast-iron" plant for its powers of endurance. The name really should have been given to the clivia.

Like the aspidistra, clivias can withstand low light and put up with plenty of neglect and still survive. What's more, clivias carry flaming round heads of lily-like flowers on long evergreen stems. Being evergreens, they remain elegant throughout the year.

In addition to having showy blossoms, clivias have attractive long, dark green, strap-like leaves. The leaves grow neatly stacked on either side of a central growing tip, as if measured and woven into place. The foliage has plenty of substance, enabling it to withstand unfavorable indoor conditions.

These favorite pot plants flower annually in cool conditions, usually from March to June. They are very popular in Europe, especially in Germany, Holland and Belgium.

The resemblance of the clivia to the amaryllis is no coincidence, as they belong to the family Amaryllidaceae. The most usual variety available is the Clivia miniata.

Clivias were introduced into England in the early part of the 19th century from Natal, South Africa, during a time when hundreds of new, rare and exotic species were brought to Europe. Many soon entered into general cultivation.

Originally known as the Kaffir lily, this plant's aristocratic good looks soon earned it the name "clivia" after the Duchess of Northumberland, whose maiden name was Lady Charlotte Florentina Clive.

In the wild, clivias live in warm,

dry forests. On the forest floor they thrive on dappled sunlight and form large clumps of growth which cover sizable plots of ground.

These two points concerning their native growth habit give us important hints as to how best to care for these handsome plants.

First, clivias don't like direct sun; however, plenty of light is preferable for good growth. Their habit of growing in clumps is a trait that has been passed down through generations, so domesticated clivias seem happiest with their roots restricted or pot-bound.

It is rarely necessary to repot them and, in fact, they don't appreciate having their roots disturbed.

The leaves are produced regularly during the summer months, while an equal number die off in autumn and winter. The sturdy flower stems - from 30cm-60cm, high - can produce from 10-60 funnel-shaped flowers each.

More mature specimens can have two or three stems. The colors of the delicately scented bouquets range from salmon to orange, many with a yellow center.

It took many years of patient raising and selection to achieve improvement in the size and color of the flowers.

The favorite method of increasing clivias is by division or from offsets (a small plant that grows at the base of the parent plant).

The best time for dividing is in mid-summer after flowering. They may also be raised from seed, but because the plants take four or five years to reach the mature flowering stage, this method is not favored.

In the last few years a new, yellow variety of clivia has made a splash in Europe and the US. Known as Clivia miniata "Aurea," it has been commanding quite high prices. But quite honestly, it is not as showy as the traditional flaming orange varieties. In comparison to ordinary flowering pot plants, even orange clivias can be

quite expensive.

But if one looks upon the expense as an investment, the clivia's indestructibility will repay the initial outlay in years of enjoyment with very little care.

Here are some helpful tips that will encourage success.

Soil A mixture of two parts peat moss, one part fine sand and one part volcanic rock makes a fine growing medium.

Watering Keep well watered during spring and summer when the plant is growing and in flower. In autumn and winter, water only when the plant soil dries out completely.

Temperature Temperatures between 10-18 degrees C. are most desirable, but warmer climates are also acceptable. But don't let the temperature drop below 7 C.

Feeding Feed with a half-strength fertilizer every other week during late spring and all through the summer months - i.e., during the time of growth.

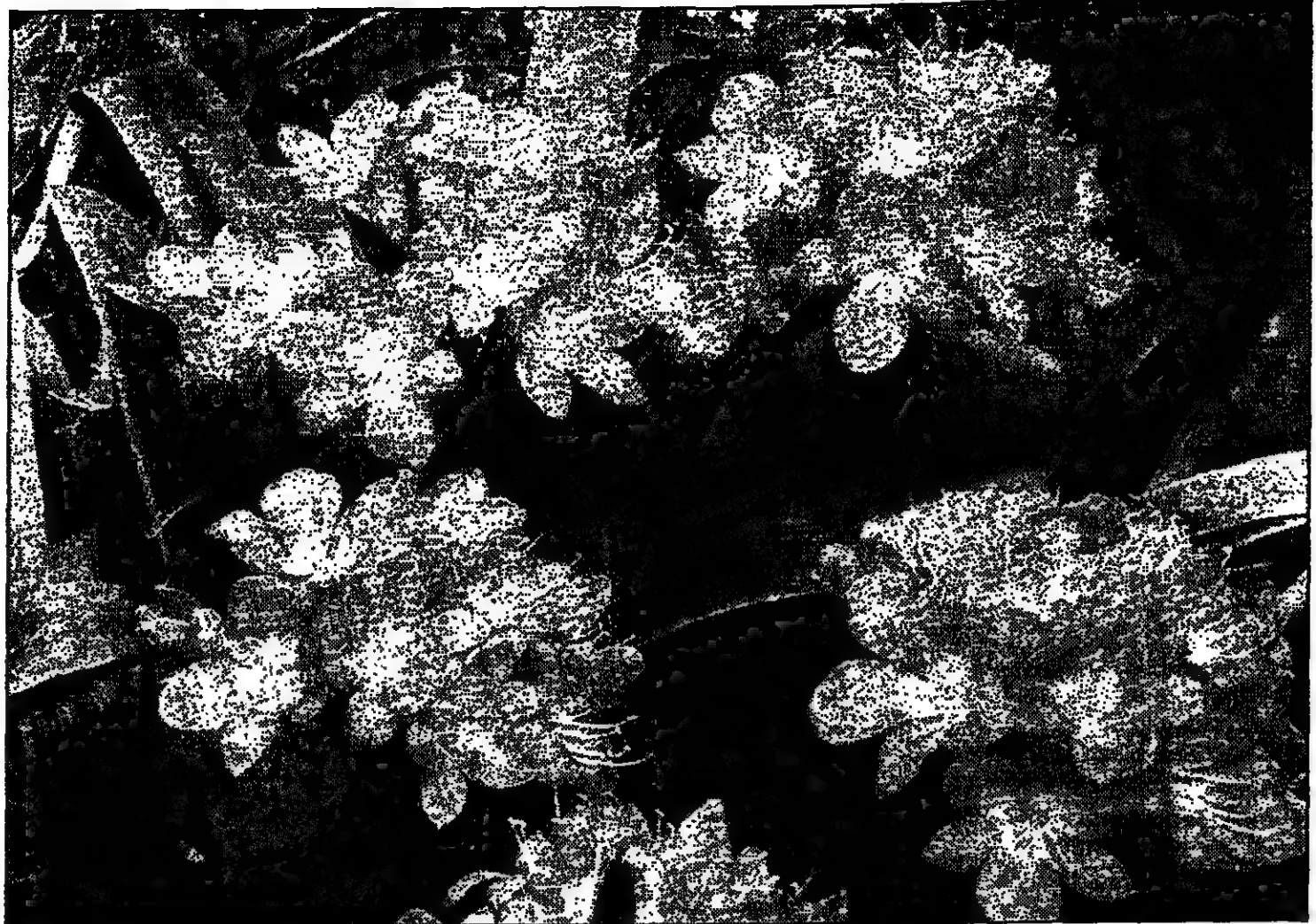
Position and light Any position is fine, as long as it has no direct sun. If grown or placed outside during the warmer months, make sure the flower is kept in shade.

Humidity Clivias prefer a little humidity but will not complain if your home is dry. An occasional misting with lukewarm water will be appreciated.

Cleaning Since the clivia is an evergreen plant, the leaves can get a little dusty. Giving the leaves a sponge-over with a mixture of water with a drop of milk will soon bring back the sheen.

Care As we mentioned, clivias flower much better when they are pot-bound - that is, when their roots are restricted. Because the plant dislikes root disturbance, you should not repot unless top growth becomes too big for its pot or top-heavy, which will not happen for at least four or five years after its first flowering date.

Propagation If you decide you want to duplicate your plant, it is possible to divide it or remove offsets. The best time for this procedure is right after flowering season. Division is not that easy, as the roots are usually very tangled and woven together. Also the thick, fleshy, worm-like roots are very brittle and easily broken if you try to hurry the job.



Clivias don't come cheap - but you can look upon the outlay as an investment, since this elegant plant is virtually indestructible.

Removing offsets is not likely to fare too well if the offset is too young, so wait until they are as big, or nearly as big, as the mother plant before removing them.

A less favorable, more difficult and slower way to reproduce plants is from seed because, as we

said, it can take from three to four years for a clivia to reach flowering stage.

Flowers need to be pollinated to produce seeds. If a seed pod is produced, let it dry out completely before splitting it open and sowing the seeds. Sow in soil as described above.

Pests and diseases Generally clivias grow trouble-free. They may attract mealy bugs, but these are easily removed with a little absorbent cotton soaked in pure alcohol.

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, P.O.B. 3943, Jerusalem 91039.

or David Brauner, e-mail: morris@mail.biu.ac.il (write "for David" on the subject line).

TIP OF THE WEEK

Clivias and many other house plants benefit from a vacation outdoors in the summer. To prevent the roots from escaping into the ground through the pot holes, stand the pots on a thick layer of shavings, gravel or ashes. Remember to water your vacationing house plants often, since their roots are confined without access to ground moisture.

There's more to mothering than simply giving milk

Heads 'N' Tails



By D'vora Ben Shaul

I have two little kittens now in their tenth week of life. Soon they will be going to new homes.

I never intended to raise kittens, but when we tried to spay their Siamese mother, she stopped breathing after a few moments of anaesthesia. We did succeed in resuscitating her, but she remained in a coma for 36 hours. So we never tried spaying her again. Instead she got her hormone shots every five months, and was sterile for several years.

Then, the shots notwithstanding, she got pregnant - from one of the local toms, it seems, of no particular pedigree - and gave birth to four kittens.

I found immediate homes for two of them, and left the other two with their mother.

Though she had never given birth before she proved an exemplary mother, and her two kittens are now ready to begin their new lives.

What is the advantage of kittens remaining with their mother for a full 10 weeks?

First of all, they feel secure, because their mother is always there to protect them. My kittens have learned to eat a variety of foods - no fussiness here: They eat white cheese and yogurt, moist tinned cat food and dried cat kibble, and drink dishes of water. They've even taken interest in wholemeal bread and the remains of an egg salad sandwich.

In addition, these kittens have not only mastered the art of using a litter box in the house, but now have also learned to prefer using the great outdoors as their toilet facility, asking to go out and come in. They also groom and clean themselves, and are generally well-adapted house cats that will fit into any home.

If I seem to be stating the obvious, it's because most people believe that, by six weeks, a kitten that has - with difficulty - learned to eat white cheese is now ready to be apart from its mother and its litter mates. This is simply not the case.



Kittens need the security of their mother being close by for the first 10 weeks of their lives. (Wagner Braun)

There is a lot more to mothering than the simple act of providing milk, and felines are particularly sensitive to this need.

We need only look elsewhere in nature to understand this. While a wolf cub is usually quite independent

at seven or eight weeks, a lion cub may remain with its mother for a full year, and it is not unusual to see a lioness with cubs of 10-11 months of age and siblings of 6-8 weeks. Tigers and leopards also keep their cubs with them for

10-12 months, nurturing them and teaching them the required skills. In short, felines - big or small - need real, intensive care if they are to develop into healthy, secure animals. And that is the prerequisite for becoming desirable pets.

STATE OF ISRAEL Ministry of the Interior

Display of Voters Rolls for the Knesset and Local Authorities Applications for Transfer to a Disabled Persons' Voting Station

Any person who, because of physical disability, is unable to vote at the voting station to which he is assigned, may apply to the Minister of the Interior, requesting that his name be transferred to another voting list and to a voting station where arrangements are available for disabled voters.

The locations of these voting stations will be published on bulletin boards in all the local councils. Application forms requesting transfer to a voting station with facilities for the disabled are available at the Population Registry Offices.

An application form will be posted to you, if you request this by phoning 08-767-7249. The completed and signed application form should be sent to the address given in the form. Applications must arrive before June 1, 1998. Anyone who has submitted such an application in the past need not submit one again.

The Ministry of the Interior - At Your Service

The Big Book of Pasta

by Beth Elon

The pasta revolution is here - more brands and types available on the Israeli market than ever before, low on calories, high on nutrition, low on cost.

How to cook it? **THE BIG BOOK OF PASTA** with its luscious full color photographs gives you enough of a variety of recipes, spices, historical facts and serving suggestions to make memorable meals which will linger in your memory - from Olive Oil and Herbs to Tomato Sauces and Cheeses, from Pasta with Meat or Fish to Baked Pasta and Pasta Salads. ALL KOSHER. Includes index and list of Italian names. Hardcover, 276 pp.

"...a book that comprehensively, accurately and with joy captured the love of Italian food. The recipes have a broad scope, are interesting and well written, and will prove of interest to anyone who values reading about or preparing food." Daniel Rogov, The Jerusalem Post Magazine

Books, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000

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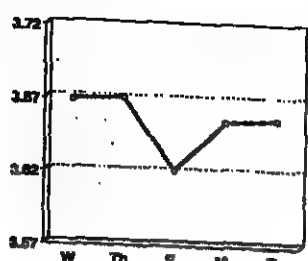
BUSINESS & FINANCE

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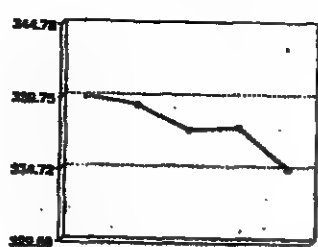
MARKETS

in brief

DOLLAR / SHEKEL

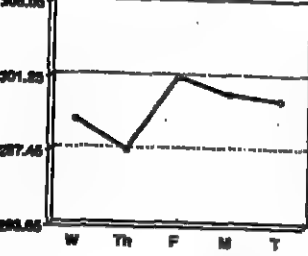


MAOF INDEX



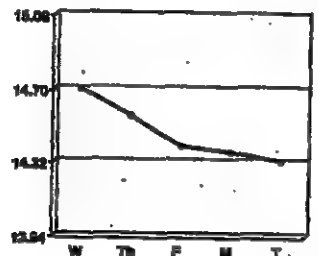
GOLD

\$ per ounce

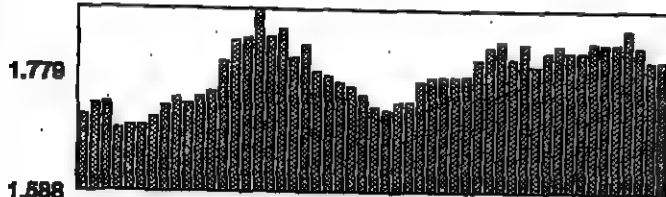


OIL

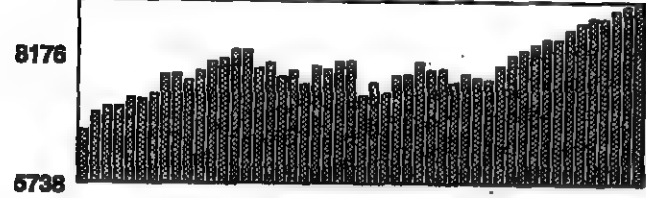
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



Central bank, manufacturers in policy row

The Manufacturers Association and Bank of Israel have renewed their battle over monetary policy following the publication in *Yedioth Aharonot* of an unsourced central bank criticism of the industrialists' negative view of the newly implemented currency liberalization.

Association president Dan Propper said yesterday that "the heads of the Bank of Israel have been trying to cover over their failures by blaming those around them - the government, the public, the industrialists, and the private sector."

The central bank countered that Propper cannot alter economic laws with his "baseless statements." *David Harris*

Nexus wins \$6m. South American contract

Nexus Telecommunication Systems has signed a \$6 million contract with a South American communications company for the deployment of the Nexus Vehicle Location and Tracking System.

Nexus president and CEO Amnon Shen said this is the second vehicle-location system the company has sold in South America. "This additional order strengthens our competitive position and makes us the market leader in the region."

Executives of the company, based in Givatayim, said the system has other applications, such as paging, and Nexus will begin work on infrastructure, user devices, and support services toward the end of this year. The company is one-third owned by BVR Technologies. *Steve Rodan*

Cial not interested in Bezeq

Cial Israel is not looking to buy control of Bezeq Israel Telecom, said Rimon Ben-Shaul, Cial Industries and Investment president and CEO.

"We made a financial investment in Bezeq, but we are not interested in buying the government's stake," Ben-Shaul said, referring to rumors the holding company plans to buy part of the government's holdings in the phone monopoly.

Ben-Shaul added, however, that the conglomerate has expressed interest in buying the government's holdings in Israel Chemicals and Elta Electronics Industries. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

Citrus exports down 4%

Citrus exports dropped four percent this season and totaled 345,000 tons compared with 360,000 tons a year earlier, according to the Citrus Board.

Orange exports fell 14% from 156,000 tons to 134,000 tons, however grapefruit exports were unchanged.

At the same time, sales of the largest citrus grower and exporter, Mehadrin, reported a 3% increase in exports, mostly due to increased sales of pink grapefruit.

The company's market share also grew last year from 32% to 34%.

The export season ended last week with the last shipment from Ashdod to England, while sales in the local market will continue for another two months. *Nina Gilbert*

HEAR O ISRAEL

Let the priests, who minister before the Lord,
weep between the temple porch and the altar.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord.
Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn,
a byword among the nations.
Why should they say among the peoples,
"Where is their God?"
Then the Lord will be jealous for his land
and take pity on his people. *Joel 2:17-18*

"Consecrate yourselves and be holy,
because I am the Lord your God." *Leviticus 20:7*

Come now O Israel, let us become one in heart
and humble ourselves before the Lord our God
and pray for the peace of Jerusalem!!!

Meeting at the Dung Gate, May 27 at 7 p.m.

FIBI's 1st quarter net up 3.1%

The First International Bank of Israel yesterday said that first quarter net profit rose 3.1 percent to NIS 49.5 million from NIS 48m. a year earlier.

FIBI is the first of the five largest banks to publish its earnings reports and therefore the results are seen as an indicator of the performance of the whole banking industry.

The bank, which is a member of the international Safra Group, said that net return of equity was 9.2% compared with 9.3% in the corresponding period last year and 10.5% in the whole of 1997.

Net income from financing activities before provisions for doubtful debts rose 3.4% to NIS

217.5m. from NIS 210.3m. in the first quarter last year.

Provision for doubtful loans increased 3.1% to NIS 20.1m. from NIS 19.5m.

Operational expenses and others rose 7.7% to NIS 224.5m. from NIS 208.6m.

The bank attributed part of the rise to expenses associated with the establishing of Alpha Card, the new credit card supplier.

Blue Square net up 5%
Blue Square-Israel, the country's largest supermarket chain, yesterday reported that net income for the first quarter rose 5.1% to NIS 24.1 million from NIS 23m.

COMPANY RESULTS

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The retailer said revenues increased by 17.1% to NIS 1.24 billion compared to NIS 1.06b. for the corresponding period last year.

Operating income rose by 103.8% to NIS 46.9m. from NIS 23m. in the first quarter of 1997.

The company's president and CEO Ya'acov Gelbard, said the company's expansion program is progressing on track, with the chain opening three new supermarkets during the quarter.

Barak cuts losses to NIS 51.4m.
Barak ITC, a provider of international phone services, said yesterday that first quarter net losses decreased 27.4 percent to NIS 51.4 million compared with the fourth quarter of 1997.

The company, which began offering services last July, said that revenues declined slightly to NIS 62.4m. from NIS 63.8m. in the fourth quarter of 1997.

Dead Sea Bromine net rises
Dead Sea Bromine of the Israel Chemicals group yesterday announced that first quarter net profit increased 13.5% to NIS 28m. from NIS 24.7m. a year ear-

lier. Meanwhile, net sales rose 12.1% to NIS 443.2m. from NIS 359.3m. The company attributed the improved results to rising sales and cost cutting.

Dead Sea said that sales to the Far East increased excluding a decline in sales to South Korea.

Jerusalem Bank net down 9%
Jerusalem Bank said that first quarter net profit fell 9% to NIS 3.1m. from NIS 3.4m. a year earlier.

Return on equity also fell to 6% from 6.9%.

Provision for doubtful debt surged to NIS 1.7m from 554,000 a year earlier.



Mandela, Castro hope for economic lift

South African President Nelson Mandela (right) drives home a point to Cuban President Fidel Castro yesterday prior to summit-level celebrations in Geneva of the 50th anniversary of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The celebration was organized by GATT's successor, the World Trade Organization. Mandela said the world should accept that integration of the global economy was inevitable. *(Reuters)*

Lauder, in Israel, mum over plans for media purchase

American businessman Ron Lauder is refusing to say whether he is engaged in negotiations to invest in the Israeli media.

Lauder, who is visiting, held a press conference yesterday in Tel Aviv but declined to comment on reports he intends to invest in *Ma'ariv*. He said he does not involve the media in negotiations until after they are completed.

Lauder and his brother Leonard, who was president of Estee Lauder until 1995 and is now a director of the company, are here for a meeting of the board of directors of RSL Communications. Ron Lauder serves as chairman of the board of directors of RSL, which specializes in telecommunications. His brother is a member of the board.

Itzhak Fisher, the president of RSL, expressed satisfaction about the achievements of the company.

It invested \$20 million here during the last 18 months. Half of that sum was invested in the Delta 3 company that it controls. The worth of the company today is estimated at \$1.5b. It was established three-and-a-half years ago. *(Him)*

Despite US waiver on Iran, Euro oilmen unsure about Libya

By ANDREW MITCHELL

LONDON (Reuters) - Energy investors in Libya confess they are still in the dark on whether the US decision to waive sanctions against foreign investors in an Iranian gas project puts them in the clear.

While overshadowed by high-profile exchanges on Iran, Libya has also been shackled by the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act (ILSA) which

threatens measures against firms investing in either country's energy sector.

US President Bill Clinton's Monday announcement that Washington would not punish a Total-led group's \$2 billion Iranian gas project has led some to conclude that ILSA looks headed for the dustbin, at least as far as Iran is concerned.

But a question mark remains on Libya.

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright pledged that other European firms could expect waivers for their Iran business, provided the European Union cooperates with Washington on fighting alleged Iranian support for terrorism.

But she apparently made no mention of Libya.

"We don't yet know if there will be a waiver for Libya," said an official with Norway's Saga, one of the

country's most recent explorers. "All the discussion on ILSA has been linked to Iran and we just don't know how it will affect us."

Saga signed a joint-venture deal late last year with France's Total and Spain's Repsol, and Austria's OMV for two exploration areas in Libya's Murzuq basin.

Saga is looking for further exploration opportunities and points out that in those projects annual outlay

in early years will not exceed the \$20 million level that triggers ILSA.

Italy's Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi Spa (ENI), Libya's biggest foreign energy investor, welcomed the US waiver.

But it reiterated that chief executive Franco Bernabe has been one of the most vocal opponents of the US for having a sanctions law at all.

GE seeks local start-up investments

By NINA GILBERT

Executives from General Electric visited here this week to explore for the first time opportunities for investing in start-up companies, according to government officials.

The company officials, from the research and development and trade divisions, met with representatives from 40 start-up companies, 23 of them projects that operate in the Industry and Trade Ministry's technological incubators.

The Industrial Cooperation Authority organized the visit. It has a multi-year counter-purchase agreement with GE, in which the company must spend 55% of the amount the Israeli government buys from it.

Authority director-general Ephraim Shoham said the agreement enables GE to invest in any technological sector, and the company is seeking cooperative ventures with Israeli companies.

"This is the first time GE has looked at the incubators, after becoming involved in a few projects over the past few years," Shoham said.

A GE official was quoted as saying by one of his hosts that "the technological developments and breakthroughs of the projects in the technological incubators in Israel

are most impressive," he said. "We believe we can cooperate and make joint accomplishments."

At present, GE is establishing a joint factory for cameras to be used in nuclear medical technology with Elscint. It will produce goods valued at \$100 million a year, he said. Since 1984, GE has invested \$600 million here.

Rina Pridor, head of the incubator program, said GE is most interested in start-up companies dealing with materials and processes, medical technology and computers.

"The incubator program provides a constant reservoir of new ideas,"

Three years ago, the financial community and investors starting look seriously at this potential, and have invested \$100 million thus far," she said, noting prominent investors such as Dow Chemicals, Johnson & Johnson and Kenwood.

Start-ups are allowed two years in the incubator, at the end of which they begin searching for investors, she said. Some 200 firms are in the incubator program at any time, and more than 50 percent move out and become established enterprises. "The failure rate here is far lower than the 90% elsewhere in the world," she said.

BEZEQ Israel Telecommunication Corp. Ltd.				
Tender	Description	Last date for submission	Inquiries to:	Cost of tender documents
22/05/98/0050	ADSL Access System - Framework Agreement	30.8.98	02-5395514	NIS 1,000

General Tender Participation Conditions:

- Pre-conditions:
 - Compliance with all laws, including laws relating to the keeping of account books, registering as an authorized trader, registering as a company, holding necessary licenses, and complying with relevant standard specifications.
 - Providing a guarantee, to ensure execution of bid offer - as detailed in tender documents.
- The tender documents can be obtained from the Purchasing Unit, Tenders and Orders Dept., 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, Sunday to Thursday. The tender documents will be provided, on submitting a receipt, showing that the cost of the documents (as noted above) has been paid. Payment may be made:
 - * In Israel - into Postal Bank acc. 5-311757
 - * Abroad - into Acc. 12-901-97633/64 at the Jerusalem central branch of Bank Leumi Leisrael.
 The cost of the tender documents in non-returnable. The receipt plus details of the supplier, including authorized trader's number, may be sent by fax to 972-2-5378113. To confirm that fax has been received, call 972-2-539-5614.
- Bids must be deposited in the tenders box at 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem.
- No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid, or to order all the required goods/services from one bidder.
- Bids sent by fax or telegram cannot be considered.

118.9%

and still rising!

In January, we recommended this
European Warrant Fund.
Look where it's gone since then!



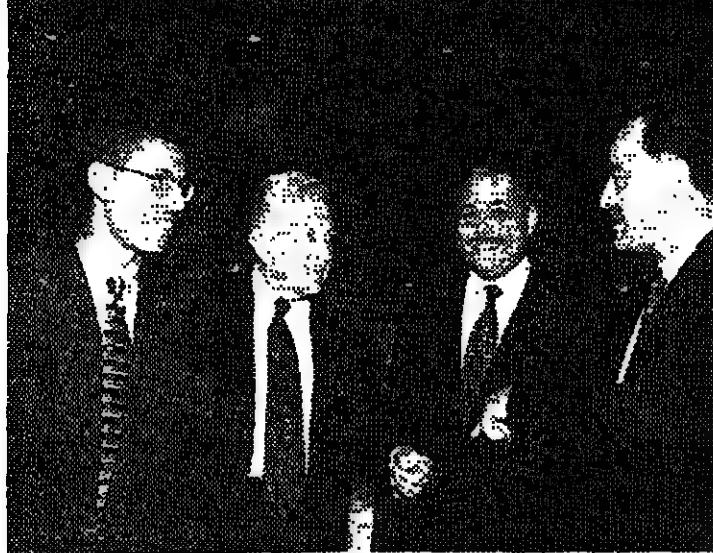
Based on surging corporate growth in Europe, the European Warrant Fund has shown more than 1337% profit over the past five years - and all financial signs indicate continued growth. Like most high-yield investments, this fund is accompanied by risk - but its fluidity allows you to withdraw at any time. The fund is ranked among top funds by financial journals including *Micropai*.

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THE BUSINESS SCENE
By GREER FAY CASHMAN



Jordan's commercial attaché in Israel together with Jordanian businessmen attended last week's meeting of the Sherkat College Board of Governors to finalize details for training courses the college will give to Jordanian textile workers. At the Board of Governors' gala dinner at the Tel Aviv Hilton hotel, the Jordanians met with President Ezer Weizman (second from left), who is pictured with (left to right) Jordan Export Development and Commercial Center Corporation representatives Ra'ed K. Ashbale and Pharoouk el Hadidi, and Maznan Khalaf, commercial counselor at the Jordanian Embassy.

An Inglin, the president of the Chinese National Radio Service, accompanied by a trade delegation, will visit Israel next week.

Brig-Gen. Michael Dayan, the outgoing chief officer of the Armored Corps, who is retiring from the Israel Defense Forces, has been elected chairman of the 12th International Conference of the Israel Quality Association. The event is scheduled for the first week in December, 1998. Dayan, 48, holds a degree in mechanical engineering from the Technion and a master's degree in systems engineering from UCLA. He also has a master's degree in political science from Haifa University's Defense College.

Acting on the recommendations of a Technology 21 Report, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge will bring a 45-member trade mission to Israel at the end of this week. The objective of the mission is to further Pennsylvania's global competi-

tiveness by attracting foreign high-technology firms, and to create jobs. "Israel has the most Internet start-ups anywhere in the world, outside the Silicon Valley," said Ridge, adding that Pennsylvania can learn from Israel's experience, and benefit from its success.

Participants in the trade mission will include two Cabinet secretaries: Samuel McCullough, secretary of the Department of Community and Economic Development, and Eugene Bickok, secretary of the Department of Education. Prof. Yakir Plesser of the Hebrew University's Faculty of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Quality Sciences, has won the first prize in a competition dealing with Israel's economy. The competition was sponsored by the San Francisco-based Koret Foundation. Plesser's paper "How can Israel achieve economic self-sufficiency?" was chosen over those submitted by numerous researchers at Israel's institutes for higher education. Another HU staffer, Dr. Eugene Kandel of the Jerusalem School of Business Administration, won third prize in the competition for his paper "Reforming the Social Protection System in Israel." Plesser won \$17,500 for himself and \$100,000 for the Hebrew University, where he has been a staff member since 1966.

Stephanie Gines, communications director of Lyon Mode City, was in Israel this week to drum up Israeli interest in the International Exhibition of Swimwear, Beachwear and Lingerie, which will take place in Lyon in September of this year.

Hanging in for the long term

How should recent events in Asia, from Indonesia's political strife to India's nuclear restlessness, impact Wall Street and the global marketplace?

By TOM PETRINO

A few nuclear bombs can really ruin your day, or so that 1970s-era line used to go. Let's hope no one worried for even a minute last week that India's sudden appetite for destruction might have a dampening effect on overseas financial markets.

US Treasury bond yields just gyrated in their usual (of late) thin-as-a-toothpick range, and the Dow Jones industrial average went on to a new high by Wednesday, though it gave some modest ground by Friday.

In any case, news of a significantly higher ante in the nuclear card game might have at least provoked a small emotional response on Wall Street. India with the bomb, however, admittedly is not the item that average Americans today would put first if forced to draw up a list of meaningful threats to their 401(k) accounts. (Also, wouldn't India nuking Pakistan be akin to the United States nuking Canada? Wouldn't that be a slight problem with radioactive fallout coming over the border? Oh, never mind.) Neither, it seems, would East Asia's deepening woes make the list.

That region's economic collapse over the last year was supposed to wreak all sorts of havoc with the US economy. Sure, every American company with an earnings problem — or should we say, "earnings challenge" — in recent quarters has cited Asia, but the numbers that really count show the stock market near a record high and US unemployment at a 28-year low.

Suharto who? It is increasingly remarked that Americans have become entranced by the narcotic effect of a robust economy and soaring stock market since 1995, and that we are forgetting there's a large and often dangerous world out there to which we are connected as never before.

At a minimum, the near-anarchy in Indonesia — the world's fourth-most populous nation — and even more populous India's insistence on becoming a nuclear power are reminders of what can go wrong, in a decade in which so much has gone right — at least from the standpoint of an American capitalist.

But when worried Wall Streeters shake their heads at US stocks' heights, they may miss the point. Given all of the trends favoring financial assets in the 1990s, the stock market almost certainly deserves to be where it is, even with the average blue-chip stock priced at about 28 times current annual earnings (vs. just 15 times as recently as 1995).

The only question is whether those trends can be sustained. If they can't be, then it would be logical for investors to reassess the value of stocks — which, after all, are simply claims on some assumed level of future corporate success.

Consider: It wasn't so long ago that optimism about the US economy and stock



The near-anarchy in Indonesia is a reminder of what can go wrong, in a decade in which so much has gone right for the American capitalist. (AP)

market was partly rooted in an assumption of rising prosperity in the developing world, as countries such as Indonesia grew a large and stable middle class of consumers who would buy more from us.

Everybody wins! But if that prosperity now is in question, as it certainly is in East Asia, it would seem reasonable to question whether US stocks are worth ever-higher prices. If Indonesia's middle class has been set back five or 10 years, what replaces that formerly bullish element in US stocks' outlook?

Perhaps the American economy can stay on its current streak without outside assistance — as long as we all keep buying new homes and new cars in perpetuity. Perhaps a healthier, united Europe is the ticket.

Or maybe China is still the great hope. Just last week, Chinese President Jiang Zemin again lectured his countrymen on the need for job cuts now to raise productivity and ensure a richer future for China. "We must first solve the overstaffing problem that is haunting many state enterprises, and help them raise efficiency and competitiveness through laying off their redundant employees," Jiang said, sounding more like a Fortune 500 chief executive than a card-carrying Communist.

As long as there is still plenty of that

pro-capitalist faith to go around in this world, it's tough to blame American investors for believing that the long-term "fundamentals" support shoveling still more money into equities.

But let's be honest: Many investors, perhaps far too many, aren't thinking much about "fundamentals" at all today. Stocks (and certainly stock mutual funds) are being bought largely because the market has continued to rise dramatically since 1990.

Why would you not play a game that has been this much fun, and so rewarding? Why would you buy a bond yielding a 6 percent annual return when stocks might give you that return in one month?

It says something about the resiliency of the 1990s bull market that shares of a company such as Hewlett-Packard, which has repeatedly fallen short of analysts' earnings estimates over the last two years, still are up 40 percent in price since January 1997.

That isn't as peculiar as it might seem at first glance. Even if HP isn't hitting the numbers Wall Street wants to see, it still earned \$685 million in its quarter ended April 30. We're not talking about some Indonesian near-bankruptcy here. Fundamentally, HP is a great American

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ly, albeit with a few hiccups, since 1990. Why would you not play a game that has been this much fun, and so rewarding? Why would you buy a bond yielding a 6 percent annual return when stocks might give you that return in one month?

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company with a bright future. But when a stock such as Entremed Inc. soars from \$12 to \$85 in one day because the tiny biotech company might have an effective cancer treatment — "might" being the operative word — is that a run-up based on a solid assessment of the fundamentals, or is it simply a mania?

All investing, of course, is gambling on some level. But every generation of investors usually learns the hard way about the danger of getting so caught up in stock hype and euphoria about the future that basic rules about investing and markets are disregarded or forgotten.

Who knows what today's red-hot Internet-related stocks are truly worth? What we do know from history is that the eventual outcome usually isn't pleasant when investors pay the prices that stock manias demand.

BYRON WIEN, veteran strategist at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, noted in a recent essay that "the extreme volatility of the Internet stocks has some eerie parallels. The mobile home stocks blew off in the early 1970s, oil service stocks in 1980, small-capitalization technology stocks in mid-1983, the whole market in August 1987 and biotechnology stocks in 1991."

"Buying a sector with little foreseeable earnings is a sign of overconfidence and a lack of careful analysis. Sector blowoffs are reasons to suspect trouble ahead."

Wien, while listing in his essay the 10 most commonly discussed arguments as to why the bull market could go on indefinitely (low inflation, low interest rates, aging baby boomers' saving more, etc.), then follows those with 10 arguments as to why this bull run is looking dangerously overvalued (crazy merger activity, money supply soaring, stocks overvalued by every measure, etc.).

But the title of his essay really says it all: "Only the old guys sell this market" — investors old enough to remember what has gone before, old enough to remember that stocks don't rise 30% a year forever, and old enough not to believe too fervently one's own "magic" as a stock picker.

Then again, maybe that is precisely who should be selling at this point — people too old to wait through a severe market downturn, if one ever arrives.

Younger investors, although they're likely to have more unqualified optimism about stocks today, also have the greatest ability to withstand a market plunge, sit through lower or even negative returns for a time, and wait for the fundamentals to make the market go again.

The argument that "if I sell, I'll never get back in at the right time" is still a legitimate reason for long-term investors to stick with a diversified portfolio of stocks today. The problem is that the true test of most investors' ability to hang for the "long term" has yet to arrive. But it will. (Los Angeles Times)

MUTUAL FUNDS

Fund's name	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	1998 (%)	1997 (%)	NIS (millions)	Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	1998 (%)	1997 (%)	NIS (millions)	Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	1998 (%)	1997 (%)	NIS (millions)				
FLEXIBLE																							
Adia	234.93	234.29	+1.10	+5.34	19.8	Emilex	201.04	199.88	+0.27	+0.26	13.8	Chif Deter	1281.89	1284.89	+0.78	+1.28	6.0	Mettler Corp. Corp. Bonds	151.09	149.87	+0.51	+0.48	10.3
Adia Flexible	104.97	107.93	+2.93	+7.03	29.3	Emilex FA 100	224.10	221.75	-2.35	-1.48	8.6	Chif Deter	484.15	484.15	+1.82	+1.81	8.8	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	206.48	205.65	-1.78	-1.24	20.5	Emilex FA 100	173.81	172.71	-1.10	-1.15	27.9	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	146.76	157.16	+10.40	+7.04	31.1	Emilex FA 100	119.17	119.17	-1.21	-1.25	22.2	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	101.29	101.38	+0.09	+0.08	10.0	Emilex FA 100	212.23	211.49	-0.74	-1.20	15.4	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	785.22	775.93	-10.29	-1.29	71.0	Emilex FA 100	371.70	365.96	-5.74	-10.71	107.6	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	153.33	153.04	-0.29	-0.29	0.3	Emilex FA 100	154.43	154.43	-0.43	-0.43	12.0	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	115.37	115.08	-0.29	-0.29	0.3	Emilex FA 100	154.43	154.43	-0.43	-0.43	12.0	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	202.29	201.61	-0.68	-0.68	0.7	Emilex FA 100	154.43	154.43	-0.43	-0.43	12.0	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	121.48	121.89	+0.41	+0.41	5.5	Emilex FA 100	154.43	154.43	-0.43	-0.43	12.0	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
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Adia Flexible	202.02	201.29	-0.73	-0.73	7.3	Emilex FA 100	154.43	154.43	-0.43	-0.43	12.0	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
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Adia Flexible	121.48	121.89	+0.41	+0.41	5.5	Emilex FA 100	154.43	154.43	-0.43	-0.43	12.0	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	236.49	234.37	-2.12	-2.12	27.4	Emilex FA 100	154.43	154.43	-0.43	-0.43	12.0	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	202.02	201.29	-0.73	-0.73	7.3	Emilex FA 100	154.43	154.43	-0.43	-0.43	12.0	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	153.33	153.04	-0.29	-0.29	0.3	Emilex FA 100	154.43	154.43	-0.43	-0.43	12.0	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	115.37	115.08	-0.29	-0.29	0.3	Emilex FA 100	154.43	154.43	-0.43	-0.43	12.0	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	202.29	201.61	-0.68	-0.68	0.7	Emilex FA 100	154.43	154.43	-0.43	-0.43	12.0	Chif Deter	176.29	176.29	+1.13	+0.93	37.2	Mettler Money Mkt.	118.55	118.55	+1.07	+0.84	3.0
Adia Flexible	121.48	121.89	+0.41																				

LAST	CHANGE	LAST	CHANGE
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[illegible][illegible]

AMEX

NASDAQ

Lid	3.5625	-0.725
	0.40625	+0

an Corporation 14.625 +3.5625

14 0375 -0 2125

OFFICE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 19-MAY-88)

Advanced	147.5	+0
Low	18	-0.5

INTERNATIONAL

LAST CHANGE

Corp	145.875	-2.0625
	23.8375	-0.125
Lab	75.0625	-0.25

65.8125	+0.375
77.875	-1.75
87.4375	-0.5

*In local currencies

TASE declines, led by Blue Square

Tel Aviv

Stocks dropped yesterday, with Blue Square Chain Investments & Properties, a supermarket and department store operator, declining as it reported first-quarter earnings that did not meet analysts' expectations.

Blue Square dropped 5.3 percent to NIS 44.3, pulling down the Tel Aviv 100 index of largest companies down 0.97 percent to 319.19. The Maof Index of 25 largest companies sank 0.89 percent to 334.78. The supermarket operator said net income rose 34 percent to NIS 24.1m (\$6.7 million) from last year's NIS 18m, which excludes a NIS 5m capital gain. Blue Square said it increased supermarket revenues 16.7 percent while increasing income 18.5 percent at specialty stores.

"Optimally it looks good, but in fact it's a disappointment," said Roger Hornett head of the Israel division at Societe Generale Securities and Trading. Blue Square "hasn't regained the net operating profit of 1996, which was being used as a benchmark."

Revenue at Blue Square's older stores declined 0.5 percent against a rise of 3.5 percent of Super-Sol, Israel's largest supermarket chain, he said.

Bezeq Ltd., the state-telephone company, dropped 1.5 percent to 11.79 shekels after six sessions of gains. Bank Hapoalim, Israel's largest bank, dropped 2.7 percent

to 10.83 and Bank Leumi Le-Israel, the second largest bank, slipped 1.2 percent to 7.16.

Europe

UK stocks rose on optimism that President Suharto's offer to resign may stave off further civil unrest in Indonesia, boosting banks such as HSBC Holdings Plc, which have lent to Indonesian companies.

"The banks had to admit their exposure to Indonesia recently," said Simon Smith, a fund manager at Albert B Sharp, which oversees about £4 billion pounds (in UK equities). "If Indonesia can stabilize, it will help. There is less danger of the troubles escalating to other parts of Asia."

Better-than-expected earnings at British Energy Plc, J. Sainsbury Plc's plans to sell one of its two retail chains, and an upbeat statement from Lloyds TSB Group Plc, also helped bolster stocks.

The benchmark FTSE 100 index rose 51.6 points, or 0.89 percent, to 5877.8. Among companies operating in Asia, HSBC gained 15 pence to 1663. Standard Chartered rose 10p to 787 and Cable & Wireless Plc advanced 17p to 721. The broader FTSE 250 index increased 0.05 percent to 5795.2, while the FTSE 350, a combination of the other two, advanced 0.72 percent to 2857.1.

Sainsbury leaped 34.5p to 515.5 after the food retailer said it is selling its stake in Giant Food Inc. to

STOCKS

Maof 334.78 ▲ 0.89%
New Jones 9054 ▲ 0.4%
FTSE 5877.8 ▲ 0.89%
Nikkei 15551.65 ▲ 1.09%

Abold NV of the Netherlands for more than \$600 million, representing a profit of \$160 million or more since it bought the company three and a half years ago.

Asia

Japanese stocks rose for a second day, led by banks such as Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, after Indonesian President Suharto said he'll step down after a general election.

"The market's responding very favorably to the news that Suharto may not be in power much longer," said Pelham Smithers, strategist at ING Barings Securities (Japan) Ltd. "Clearly, there's been some positive reaction by those issues that had been most negatively affected,

notably Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi."

The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock index added 167.18 points, or 1.09 percent, to 15,551.65. The broader Topix index of all shares on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange gained 10.69 points, or 0.88 percent, to 1219.86. The Topix banking index surged 2.3 percent. Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, with the greatest exposure to Indonesia, added 25 yen to 1,530. The bank had set aside 30 billion yen (\$308 billion) in reserves against loans to Indonesia in the year ended March 31, the Nihon Keizai newspaper reported.

Top exporters gained as foreign investors bet they were choices unlikely to disappoint. "The foreigners are coming back and they're only buying the friendly stocks like Sony," said ING's Smithers. Sony Corp. rose 180 yen to 11,600. Toyota Motor Corp. rose 20 yen to 3,450. Canon Inc. added 50 yen to 3,130.

Sankyo Co. rallied 180 yen to 3,420 on news that Glaxo Wellcome Plc would reapply for U.K. permission to sell the Sankyo-developed diabetes drug withdrawn last December after six patients died.

Investors rewarded those companies with positive earnings forecasts that said they will seek approval at their shareholders' meetings to change corporate bylaws allowing them to buy back shares. (Bloomberg)

Wall Street

Stocks rose only slightly yesterday, barely snapping a three-session losing streak despite news that the Federal Reserve won't boost interest rates for now.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose just 3 points to 9,054 after posting a gain as large as 62 points before yesterday's Fed meeting ended. The Dow lost about 160 points the past three sessions after closing at a record 9,211.84 last Wednesday.

Broad-market indicators also retreated from the day's highs after Fed officials concluded one of their periodic discussions on inflation with no surprise increase in the central bank's key lending rate.

Analysts also contend that recent indications of moderation in the US economy will likely keep the Fed on the sidelines for now.

The Standard and Poor's 500 rose 3.70 to 1,109.52, and the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index rose 14.25 to 1,845.87.

Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by nearly a 4-to-3 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,701 up, 1,294 down and 533 unchanged.

NYSE volume totaled 565.39 million shares as of 4 p.m. The NYSE composite index rose 1.84 to 573.92, and the American Stock Exchange composite index rose 0.33 to 732.69. (AP)

Mark gains as German rate rise mooted

The dollar fell against the mark after Bundesbank council member Ernst Welteke said the German central bank may need to raise interest rates.

"We cannot exclude that there will be a slight rate rise," Welteke said at the annual conference of the Bundesbank's local Hesse branch. Still, he said, "it's way too early to speculate about that." If the Bundesbank raises its benchmark repurchase rate from 3.30 percent, it could boost the mark by bringing a higher money-market return on mark deposits.

"The straightforwardness of Welteke's comments, saying there could be a rate hike this year, surprised the market" and pushed the mark higher, said Jane Foley, a currency strategist at Barclays Capital. "It just adds to the consensus" rates German could rise

later this year.

The dollar fell to 1.7817 marks from 1.7880 late Monday in London. The dollar also slipped to 135.84 yen, paring gains from as high as 136.45 earlier as the Japanese currency was bolstered by Indonesian President Suharto's promise to step down after holding elections.

The German rate outlook contrasts with that of the US, where the Federal Reserve is not expected to raise rates.

A survey of US economists, strategists and traders at the 36 primary dealers, the firms that deal directly with the Fed's securities trading desk, found only one expects the US central bank to raise rates. The Fed's benchmark rate is 5.50 percent.

"Not only do I think the mark will be boosted by a German rate

CURRENCIES

Dollar 3.656 ▲ 0.06%
Pound 1.906 ▲ 0.12%
Mark 2.0515 ▲ 0.1%
Sterling 5.941 ▲ 0.1%

like, but also in relation to the US rate situation, where we think the next move is down, to 5.25," Klaus Baader, a senior European economist at Lehman Brothers International, who is forecasting the mark will rise to 1.65 to 1.68 to the dollar by year-end, with

German rates set to rise in June or July. "The dollar will be squeezed from both sides," he added.

Even so, evidence early yesterday suggests the German economy isn't yet strong enough to warrant higher interest rates. The Ifo institute, one of Germany's main private research houses, said its index of Western German business confidence fell to 98.7 in April, the lowest since July 1997, from 98.9 in March. Analysts polled by Bloomberg News expected 98.8.

"Dollar-mark is well-settled in a range of 1.78 to 1.80, and I don't expect any change from that," said Audrey Childe-Freeman, an economist at CIBC Wood Gundy. "The markets have become comfortable with the idea that there won't be a rate hike in Germany or the US."

In other trading, the dollar rose above 136 yen Monday for the first time since September 6, 1991, as the Japanese currency was undermined by a lack of support for the yen from Group of Eight leaders who met at the weekend in Birmingham.

Rioting in Indonesia has also hurt the yen since Japan is the country's "biggest creditor." Yesterday, though, Indonesian stocks and the rupiah recovered some ground after President Suharto said he'll call new elections and won't run for the post again, easing investor concern the country faced more deaths and possibly a military coup. The benchmark Jakarta Stock Market Composite Index rose 6.4 percent, and the rupiah was at 12,000 to the dollar from as weak as 14,500 earlier. (Bloomberg)

Palladium surges on Russian export delays

Precious metals

Palladium rose close to Monday's record highs yesterday as Russia, the world's dominant supplier, showed no signs of exporting the precious metal. Russia, which last year supplied 66 percent of the world's palladium, has failed to ship any of the metal so far this year. It may repeat its performance of 1997, when no palladium was shipped for almost the first seven months of the year.

Spot palladium rose \$20 to \$407

Energy

Crude oil fell amid perceptions that additional proposed cuts in oil production won't be adequate to relieve an oversupply of oil. On Monday, Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ali Naimi proposed cutting production by an additional 500,000 barrels a day to help absorb a supply glut. He added members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will seek further cuts when the

COMMODITIES

Gold \$299.75 ▲ 0.2%
Crude Oil \$14.31 ▼ 0.15%
CRB 219.13 ▼ 0.14%

group next meets in Vienna on June 24.
Brent crude oil for July delivery fell 15 cents to \$14.31 a barrel on London's International Petroleum Exchange.

Others

Copper for July delivery rose as much as 1.25 cents to 75 cents a pound after President Suharto of Indonesia said he would step down from power after elections. The London Metal Exchange's global copper stockpile fell by 750 metric tons to 272,150 metric tons. Coffee also fell after Suharto's statement, leading to expectations

that riots that have disrupted coffee exports will end soon. Concern over delays in coffee shipments sent the robusta coffee contract closest to expiration soaring to its highest price for almost 12 months in London on Friday. Coffee for delivery fell \$20 to \$1,935 a metric ton on the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange.

Cocoa fell as more showers approached cocoa-growing regions of Ivory Coast boosting the development of the country's second harvest of 1997-98. (Bloomberg)

US bonds little changed ahead of rate decision

US bonds were little changed yesterday amid expectations Federal Reserve officials will leave interest rates unchanged at yesterday's policy meeting.

"Everyone expects the Fed to do nothing," said Vincent Vetterano, head government bond trader at Nomura Securities International Inc.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond fell 1/8, or \$1.25 per \$1,000 bond to 102.2232, pushing its yield up 1 basis point to 5.93 percent. The two-year note yield rose 1 basis point to 5.58 percent.

Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan and his colleagues on the Federal Open Market Committee haven't changed rates since March 1997, when they raised the Fed's target rate for overnight loans between banks by 1/4 percentage point to 5

1/2 percent. A Bloomberg News survey of the 36 primary dealers - the firms that deal directly with the Fed's securities trading desk - found only one predicting a rate increase this week.

Speculation the Fed might soon raise rates grew recently as the employment and housing markets remained robust. Rapid economic growth raises the threat that inflation will quicken, and the Fed aims to provide price stability.

"The Fed is becoming a closer and tougher call," said Patrick Retzer, who helps manage \$4.2 billion at Heartland Advisors in Milwaukee. Even so, he said longer-term Treasuries still offer value and has been buying when the yield on the benchmark 30-year bond climbed above 6 percent.

Investors got some evidence that

BONDS

US 30-year T-bill yield 5.93 ▲ 0.01

the strong housing market cooled in April, with the government saying that new home construction unexpectedly declined in April. Housing starts fell 2.3 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.538 million units last month. Analysts were looking for an increase of 0.1 percent.

Some analysts said this may raise the strong housing market cooled in April, with the government saying that new home construction unexpectedly declined in April. Housing starts fell 2.3 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.538 million units last month. Analysts were looking for an increase of 0.1 percent.

sure Fed officials as they meet over whether they need to raise interest rates to slow growth so inflation doesn't accelerate.

"This is another sign of slightly slower growth in the economy," said Brian Westbury, chief economist at Griffin, Kubik, Stephens & Thompson in Chicago. "This will be just one more reason to hold off on a Fed rate increase."

So far, inflation hasn't been a problem. Consumer inflation is running at a 0.9 percent annualized pace through the first four months of this year, compared with a 1.5 percent rate in the year-ago period.

Expectations for steady rates are also reflected in futures contracts on Eurodollars, or dollars on deposit outside the US. The three-month contract expiring in June has an implied rate of 5.74 percent, or 4

basis points above the three-month rate currently offered between banks. That suggests few traders and investors expect rates will be higher when the contract expires in mid-June.

Signs that some of the turmoil in Asian markets may be lessening helped temper demand for Treasuries, traders said. Many international investors have been seeking government securities as a refuge from the renewal of Asian financial market turmoil in recent weeks.

"Some of the flight to quality buying has subsided," said Mark Fitzpatrick, manager of government bond trading at Nikko Securities Co. International Inc. "People are watching what's going on in Indonesia with one eye." (Bloomberg)

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Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Meccabi, 15 Agripas, 624-3405; Belsam, Salah al-Din, 627-2315; Shufat, Shufat Road, 581-0108; Der Aida, Harod's Gate, 628-2058.
Tel Aviv: Superpharm, 40 Einsteins, 641-3730; Superpharm Dizengoff Center, 50 Dizengoff, 623-0875; Tel Aviv, 627-2315; Jabotinsky, 123 Ben Gurion, 548-2018; Tel Aviv, 627-2315; Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einsteins, 641-3730; Superpharm Ramat Gan, 641-3730; Superpharm Ramat Hashmonai, 4 Shaul Hamelech, 696-0115.
Rafanah-Kfar Savan/Novi Pharm, 114 Ahuzat, Rafanah, 741-0211.
Netanya: Magen, 13 Weizman, 882-2985.
Haifa: Kinyat, Elazar, 6 Meirhof Square, 851-1707.
Kiryat Arava/Kupat Holim Meccabi, 1 Moshe Goshen Square, Kiryat Motzkin.

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Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Karem (Surgery, obstetrics, ENT); Shaare Zedek (orthopedics); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (Surgery, orthopedics); Bikur Holim (pediatrics).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center, Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (Surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

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When Wenger's Gunners go marching in

UPPER Street Islington was certainly the place to be on Saturday night and Sunday morning.

There was no shortage of people who stayed on the street which is the epitome of chic new-London. The chattering classes, as Conservative politicians like to call the tapas-bar and bistro revellers were joined by hordes of Arsenal fans celebrating the Cup Final win which gave the club the Double.

Sunday morning was carnival time as a quarter of a million fans lined the open top bus procession which snaked its way from the club's Highbury stadium through to a civic reception at Islington Town Hall.

The atmosphere was a far cry from the ugly scenes witnessed a few hours after the final where police with riot gear chased a mob of so-called fans who were causing havoc in the Finsbury Park area, setting alight cars and looting a shop.

Such has been Arsenal's domination of the domestic football scene since January that bookmakers are already quoting them at a very ungenerous 16-1 for the double next season. The bookies are not the only folk with an entrepreneurial spirit trying to cash in on the Arsenal. As delicious fans were leaving Wembley, some bright sparks, posing as licensed street traders had set up stalls peddling "Arsenal Double Winners 98" shirts and flags.

One, who unsurprisingly preferred to remain anonymous told reporters that he was a Tottenham fan, adding that this was "business."

The final itself will be remembered more for

Arsenal's celebrations after the game rather than the quality of the football during it. But before kick-off there was a moving little cameo which warmed the hearts of those present and the millions watching.

In a break with tradition, both teams were led out by mascots, but these were mascots with a difference. Two 12-year-old boys with a learning disability proudly sporting their teams' colors, BBC Radio commentator Mike Inglish was moved enough to describe this little ceremony in graphic detail. "Kenny Dalgligh and Tony Adams are holding onto these boys, helping them all the way to the center of the pitch."

For Adams, the moment was particularly poignant. Here was a man whose addiction to alcohol had landed him in various drying-out clinics, not to mention a three-month stint at Her Majesty's pleasure. But since the arrival of Arsene Wenger, Adams is not only a transformed footballer as his attacking forays upfield have demonstrated, he is also a reformed character. For booze, read Shakespeare, literally, as his new-found interest in English literature testifies.

Adams remarked during the week, that it was Wenger who persuaded him to carry on playing football when he was considering retirement in the middle of the campaign.

And he is not the only one of the Arsenal squad to dedicate the remarkable double achievement to the boss. Ray Parlour, once a spear-carrying Roman which made up the Arsenal bench has been transformed by Wenger into a real Charlton Heston. Man-of-the-Match in the final, the pressure is now on from the tabloid hacks for Glenn Hoddle to take him to France.

Wenger himself is as modest as he is talented, dedicating the double to Max Hild, the 69-year-old former coach of Strasbourg where Wenger cut his teeth in coaching. "He stimulated my interest in the coaching side of football. He made me think about the game," Wenger told the London Evening Standard on Monday.

As for Newcastle, they too were greeted by thousands of fans in an open-top bus on their return to the north-east, but the atmosphere was more muted. It was never going to be their day from the moment Dalgligh sent his team out to try and contain Arsenal, rather than play an attacking game. Perhaps the only consolation for the beleaguered footballing city was the triumph of Newcastle Falcons in winning the rugby Premiership title on Sunday.

So now all eyes are on the World Cup and politics are inevitably going to be involved. Last week, the government urged tabloid editors to tone down the xenophobic language which was all too conspicuous during Euro 96. The editor of the Sun newspaper, Stuart Higgins gave a sneak preview to BBC viewers of some of the headlines under consideration, should England meet Germany. "You're Schmidt and you know you are" was the worst of x-rated horrors which will be appearing on computer screens throughout the tournament.

Another tabloid, the ubiquitous Mirror had an exclusive of Paul Gascoigne stumbling out of a restaurant in the company of rock star Rod Stewart. Gascoigne's agent Mel Stein admitted his client had been out on what he described as a "bash" but added that it was a shame the attention was on his player as "similar pictures could have been taken of half of the England squad".

FINALLY to cricket, with listeners and viewers who are looking forward to hearing the wit and wisdom of Geoffrey Boycott on the cricket this summer will be disappointed. Both the BBC and Sky TV have put the great man's views on hold pending his appeal against the three-month suspended prison sentence meted out by a court in Grasse, southern France following allegations made by Boycott's former girlfriend, Margaret Moore that she suffered severe facial bruising in an attack in a hotel on the French Riviera in 1996.

The sight of Boycott, resplendent in an MCC Panama hat, digging a car key into the wicket half an hour before play, pontificating how high the ball will bounce, has become one of the landmarks of the English season.

London Calling



Mark Rivlin

SPORTS

in brief

AC Milan's Capello sacked after 'last supper'

ROME (Reuters) — AC Milan owner Silvio Berlusconi summoned coach Fabio Capello to a "Last Supper" at his villa near Milan and sacked him after a disappointing season, club sources said yesterday.

Capello was seen leaving the villa just before midnight on Monday apparently furious, but Berlusconi said the meeting had gone well.

"Capello didn't seem to me to be angry. One thing is certain, things that are done well end well," he said.

Club vice president Adriano Galliani described the evening as a "conversation" and said the two sides would meet again in a few days. Italian media said this meant that coach and club had failed to agree his pay-off.

La Gazzetta dello Sport newspaper said Capello had confirmed he planned to take a season off.

Milan, which dominated soccer in Italy and Europe for much of the last decade, is currently in deep crisis and finished the season 10th.

Court overturns UEFA ban of Anderlecht

LAUSANNE (AP) — The Court for Arbitration of Sport (CAS) yesterday overturned a decision by European soccer's governing body UEFA to ban Belgian club Anderlecht for a 14-year-old bribery case.

The CAS, a tribunal set up by the International Olympic Committee, ruled that UEFA's Executive Committee, which had imposed the suspension, was not qualified to make such a decision. Cases of corruption should be handled by UEFA's judicial committee and not by the Executive Committee, on the basis of the association's disciplinary rules, the CAS said in a press release.

UEFA had banned Anderlecht from the next European competition it qualified for, for allegedly bribing the referee of a 1984 UEFA Cup semifinal against Nottingham Forest, which had assured the Belgian team a place in the UEFA Cup final.

Life ban for junior Romanian rugby players

BUCHAREST (Reuters) — The Romanian Rugby Federation yesterday imposed bans of one year to life on players and coaches of a junior club expelled from France for stealing sports gear from a supermarket.

"The FRR hereby bans all Grivita Bucharest teams from taking part in the current and following national championships and bans them from all international activities for the next five years," a federation statement said.

It said five of 13 players arrested by police in Toulouse were banned for life from all sporting activity. The remaining eight were suspended pending an investigation into their role in the incident.

Blagnac town hall officials paid 19,000 francs (about \$3,200) in damages to the local sports store in order to bail out the players.

ARU angered by Dallaglio snub

SYDNEY (Reuters) — Australian Rugby Union (ARU) officials are incensed by news that English captain Lawrence Dallaglio has signed up to play an invitational match just days after pulling out of England's tour of the southern hemisphere.

ARU managing director John O'Neill said he was perplexed as to how Dallaglio could agree to play for a World XV against English club champions Newcastle after withdrawing from the tour of Australia citing a shoulder injury.

"It still seems incomprehensible

to us that you can have the England captain unavailable to tour on medical grounds yet he's still playing club rugby and now he's playing in an invitational fifteen," O'Neill said.

"If his shoulder is that bad, why are they allowing him to play rugby? It's because someone's paying him a lot of money to play club rugby and at the end of the day, players will respond to that."

Dallaglio was among 14 English players who withdrew from next month's tour of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa because of injury or personal reasons.

O'Neill said the squad, which included 17 uncapped players, made a mockery of Test rugby and he accused England's leading clubs of putting pressure on players to miss the tour, in breach of international rugby regulations.

English officials have denied the accusations even though a number of players, including Dallaglio, have continued playing club rugby.

Dallaglio will play for a World XV against Newcastle at Twickenham on May 23, two weeks before Australia play England in Brisbane.

Cronje savages Kent attack

CANTERBURY (Reuters) — Captain Hansie Cronje led from the front with a blistering 64 from 45 balls as South Africa piled up 290 for seven against Kent in a 50-over game on Tuesday.

Although opener Gary Kirsten was trapped lbw by seamer Alan Jaggeson for 13 with the total 40, Gerhardus Liebenberg continued his fine form with a composed 72 from 94 balls, hitting 10 fours.

Liebenberg put on 115 for the second wicket with Jacques Kallis, who recorded his third half-century in as many innings. Kallis hammered 61 from 70

deliveries, including five fours and a six, and Daryll Cullinan continued his own impressive form with 48 from 54 balls.

But the fireworks were provided by Cronje, who smashed left-arm spinner Min Patel in brutal fashion to reach 50 from just 33 balls; his final 64 included five fours and a six.

Kent were without six first-team regulars, including England pace bowler Dean Headley and West Indies all-rounder Carl Hooper, though Jaggeson took two wickets with the last three balls of the innings to finish with four for 40 from his 10 overs.

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URGENT DUE TO departure, Citroen ZX Advantage, 1.6, 1st owner. ABS, air-bags, alarm, power steering, radio-tape. Excellent condition. Full-service history. 30,000 NIS. for new immigrant, 50,000 for Israeli. Tel. 052-661-9646. (762462)

BEAUTIFUL, 1993 VOLVO GL245, station wagon, looks like new, one owner only, only 100,000km, immediate. Tel. 052-634-748, 02-537-1729. (762481)

VEHICLES

Jerusalem

DAEWOO RACER GBL, 1994, abok-shit, 1st hand, excellent condition, 4 extras, test, 72,000 km. Tel. 02-556-5554 (after-noon) (NS), Tel. 02-531-5616 (NS).

HYUNDAI H100, 1995, 68,000 km, 12 month test, 9 passengers, front/rear AC, power steering, standard gear, perfect body, 6500 NIS under book. Tel. 02-930-1560 (NS), Tel. 050-316-715 (NS). (14944)

VEHICLES

Sharon Area

PASSPORT

3X VW GOLF 1.8i auto/full options \$5,900 1992; 2X Opel Vectra 2000 auto/full options \$6,800 1992; 2X VW Jetta 1.8 auto/full options \$7,600 1992; 2X Vitar Jeep 1.6, 2 door, open top \$7,000 1992; Tel. 09-742-9517, Tel/Fax: 052-423-327 (Colin) (760173)

1994 BMW 328i full options manual \$12,500; 1992 SAAB 900 automatic options \$7,500; 1992 Mercedes 420 SEL full options \$13,000; 1996 Hyundai Lintara manual only \$5,000. Full options. Tel. 09-742-9517, Tel/Fax: 052-423-327 (Colin) (760173)

OLEH, OLEH, 1995 Forever 205 Peugeot, White, 4-door, aircon, alarm, radio/tape, very good condition, quick sale. Tel. 09-742-9517, Tel/Fax: 052-423-327 (Colin) (760173)

SUBURBAN, GMC 1995, 5.7, 65,000 km loaded. Gasoline. Front & rear air conditioning. Full luxury leather interior, sophisticated alarm, car starter and premium sound system. Many extras. Leave messages: 052-729-940. (762486)

SAAB 9000 TURBO, 1988, 5 speed white loaded, like new, low miles. Tel. 09-771-2698. (762459)

FIAT MAREA STATION WAGON (ELX) 1998, silver, automatic, 1.6, dual air bags, air-conditioning, stereo, low mileage, immaculate, non-smoker, for atm. Tel. 09-785-7652, 052-231-530. (762218)

TOURIST ONLY! 1996 Chrysler Neon 1.6, metallic blue, automatic, power-steering, air-conditioning, air bags, ABS, radio-tape, alarm, 40,000 km, spoiler. Car looks new. Must sell now. COLIN. Tel. 09-742-9517, Tel/Fax: 052-423-327. (762390)

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CRITICS' CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

Salvador Mas-Comde leads the Israel Chamber Orchestra in Mozart's Haffner serenade and Bach's Coffee Cantata with soloists Hila Plitmann, Frances Garrigosa and Dan Eisinger tonight and tomorrow at the Tel Aviv Museum (8:30).

THEATER

HELEN KAYE

Gvulat (Borders), written and directed by Shmueli Levy for the Haifa Theater, is about four young soldiers holed up in a Lebanese town after their platoon has been ambushed. They have no radio, and it's going to be a long, long night. This is a play about fear, death, and the boys who are forced to confront both. Opens tonight at Wadi Salib at 8:30 p.m. (Hebrew).

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

**** WELCOME TO SARAJEVO - As chronicles of foreign encounters with war-torn countries go, English director Michael Winterbottom's film seems at first to be oddly scattered, even chaotic in its intentions and tone. But as he weaves actual documentary footage with staged scenes, and cuts from one cluster of characters to another, the disorientation we are experiencing comes to seem a good deal more calculated. Winterbottom and screenwriter Frank Cottrell Boyce, working from a memoir by journalist Michael Nicholson, want us to struggle a bit: they want us to wade our own way through this con-



A scene from 'Welcome to Sarajevo.'

flict's mess and horror and though the film does wind around to an unequivocal message about the world's failure to intervene more forcefully in Bosnia, they seem hellbent on having us experience this message at a visceral level. They succeed. *Sarajevo* is a harshly lyrical, disturbing, flawed yet original film, at once too skeptical to be agitprop, too politically passionate (and persuasive) for melodrama. With Woody Harrison, Stephen Dillane, Marisa Tomei and the devastated city of Sarajevo itself. (Not recommended for children)

THURSDAY IN THE POST
The Weekender - book reviews, what to do, where to go, recipes and restaurants, film, theater, chess, bridge and fashion

WINNING CARDS

in yesterday's Mitzvah Hapayis daily chance drawing

Q 10 J 8
A K 8 K

WINNING NUMBERS

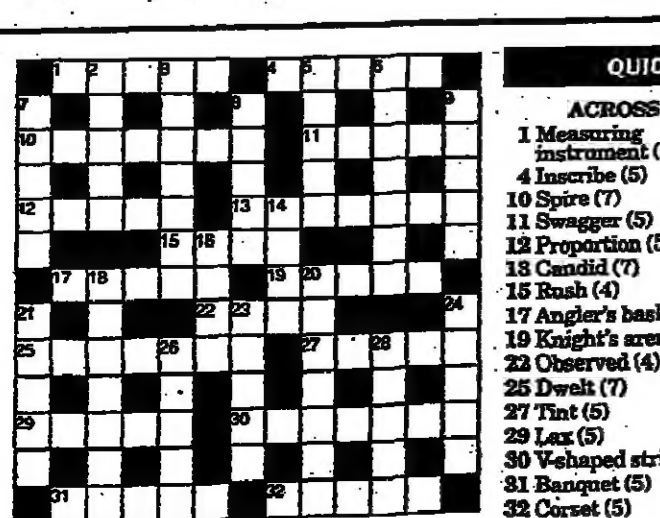
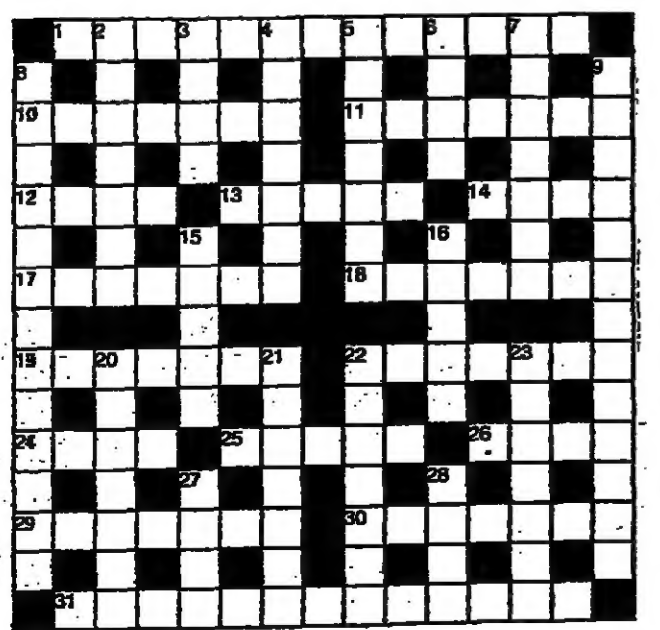
in yesterday's weekly Lotto drawing

9 13 14
16 35 39

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Mabel and I lurch if drunk-on this? (13)
10 A stubborn worker seen around a river vessel (7)
11 Careless a girl on the knee (7)
12 A song sung for joy (4)
13 A matter of extreme interest to the lender (5)
14 People go crazy running it (4)
17 Specifically used by diabetics (7)
18 No performance from one who behaves in an ostentatious manner (4-3)
19 Greet us, perhaps, with a wave? (7)
22 Foreign vessel is shrouded in silence (7)

DOWN
24 Gratuity about right for the journey (4)
25 Put up with criticism (5)
26 Perhaps every term holds a recess (4)
29 Unnecessary warning to a caretaker? (7)
30 Save up for book (7)
31 Change sides? (5,3,5)



SOLUTIONS

ACROSS
1 Mabel and I lurch if drunk-on this? (13)
10 A stubborn worker seen around a river vessel (7)
11 Careless a girl on the knee (7)
12 A song sung for joy (4)
13 A matter of extreme interest to the lender (5)
14 People go crazy running it (4)
17 Specifically used by diabetics (7)
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24 Gratuity about right for the journey (4)
25 Put up with criticism (5)
26 Perhaps every term holds a recess (4)
29 Unnecessary warning to a caretaker? (7)
30 Save up for book (7)
31 Change sides? (5,3,5)

ACROSS
1 Measuring instrument (5)
4 Inscribe (5)
10 Spire (7)
11 Swagman (5)
12 Proprietor (5)
13 Candid (7)
14 Ruck (4)
17 Angler's basket (5)
19 Knight's arena (5)
22 Observed (4)
25 Dreak (4)
27 Tint (5)
29 Lax (5)
30 Veined stripe (7)
31 Bapped (5)
32 Corset (5)

DOWN
2 Happening (7)
3 Reconnaitre (7)
5 Assembled (5)
6 Anguish (7)
7 Arragant (5)
8 Taut (5)
9 Scatter (5)
14 Inactive (4)
16 Otherwise (4)
18 Revive (7)
20 Examine (7)
21 Canic (5)
23 Order (5)
24 Intended (5)
26 Less (5)
28 Display (5)

TV

19:00 Le Journal

19:15 French Show

19:30 News

20:00 Hollywood

20:00 News Academy

20:00 Local Magazine

21:10 Kung Fu

22:00 News in English

22:30 Miniseries

00:00 Country Music

00:30 Current Affairs

01:00 News

01:30 News

02:00 News

02:30 News

03:00 News

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MOVIE CHANNEL

11:30 Rio Diablo

12:30 Rio Diablo

13:30 Rio Diablo

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15:30 Rio Diablo

16:30 Rio Diablo

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هكذا من الأهل